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KENT ON SUNDAY

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FAREWELL MR FULLER?



UNSURE: Fuller waiting on the final decision

It looked like goodbye, but Kent's Chief Constable is not assuming he'll get CPS role

By **GARETH ARNOLD**

BRITAIN'S first black Chief Constable Michael Fuller is waving goodbye to Kent but he is still refusing to confirm whether he will take the top job with the Crown Prosecution Service.

Mr Fuller has been selected by Attorney General Baroness Scotland QC as the preferred candidate to become Chief Inspector of the CPS.

Yet he is keen to stress through Kent on Sunday that the deal is far from done, and the recommendation is advisory even though his current contract runs out in March.

The decision will be made by the Justice Select Committee of MPs next month, with official announcement expected on January 12.

Mr Fuller's application follows several unsuccessful attempts to land some of Britain's top policing roles.

The Chief Constable applied for the Met Commissioner's job in October 2008 following Ian Blair's resignation, and was also considered to become Chief Constable of British Transport Police, but lost out to the force's deputy.

And in May this year he got down to the last four candidates for the Deputy Met Commissioner's role.

The Chief Constable remains guarded about his future.

Mr Fuller said: "It is too early to say much at the moment. I'm not gone yet, but I have been through the selection process and I've been put forward as the preferred candidate, but the MPs might disagree.

"It is quite unusual thing for the CPS to look outside the service for this role. I have engaged with the CPS from the other side of the fence so I am able to see where improvements could be made from an operational angle."

Under the leadership of Mr Fuller, the county has seen the introduction of Neighbourhood Policing Teams, 14 specialist units aimed at combating low level crime such as vandalism, graffiti and underage drinking.

The force has also acquired a police helicopter, shared with Essex, part of a string of

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



Why your real tree will cost 20% more

Christmas tree grower Daniel Penfold, from Ashford confirms there is a shortage of some real Christmas tree this year.

And much of the blame lies with our European neighbours. The weak pound means British growers can earn more by selling across the Channel and that means fewer trees… and higher prices.

FULL STORY SEE PAGE THREE

Also inside

Full details of the new fast train service which is set to transform the county bringing London within an hour for almost everyone.

It launches tomrrow and Kent on Sunday looks at the new service which has been compared in importance to the opening of the Channel Tunnel and the completion of the M2 and M20

SEE PAGES SIX AND SEVEN



* Includes all surcharges and taxes. See website for details and full terms and conditions.

String of achievements during career in police

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

collaborations between the counties aimed at saving money.

These savings have left Kent in a good financial state according to Mr Fuller: "We have employed 170 extra officers in the last five years. We didn't go to government to ask for the money to do this, it came from efficiency savings."

Mr Fuller joined Kent Police as chief constable in January 2004, having been with the Met since starting as a cadet in 1975.

While a detective chief inspector stationed at Shepherds Bush and Hammersmith, he came up with a strategy that formed the basis for the Metropolitan Police anti-burglary initiative, Operation Bumblebee, according to his biography on Kent Police's website.

In 1998 while at Scotland Yard, he helped set up the Racial and Violent Crime Task Force.

As a detective superintendent based in the Home Office, he gave regular advice to the Home Secretary and government ministers and was later appointed deputy assistant commissioner (director of intelligence) at New Scotland Yard.

He holds an honorary doctorate of laws from Sussex University and the University of East London.

He is a non-practising barrister and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in July 2007.

How many coppers does it take to change a light bulb?

POLICE are so bogged down in red tape at two new stations they can't even change a light bulb, ***writes Nick Ames.***

Replacing toilet rolls is also off limits for officers at two privately built police "superstations" in the north of the county.

Kent Police's £23 million Medway headquarters in Gillingham and the £31m police station in Gravesend were built under private finance initiatives (PFI).

And those deals mean maintenance contracts are handled by a private contractor. As a result, officers have to send request forms or call a 24-hour hotline for everyday supplies including toilet rolls, light bulbs and cutlery.

According to Police Review, they must also call the hotline if they want to put up posters or even reposition plants and litter bins. Ian Pointon, chairman of Kent Police Federation, said the situation was "bonkers".

He said: "Police officers are practical, can-do sorts and if they are sitting at their desk and a bulb goes they just want to get up, go to a cupboard, get a new bulb, screw it in and get back to work.

"They don't want to be sitting in the dark ringing a 24-hour helpline asking for the bulb to be changed. But the problem is if you want a new police station these days, the only way to get funding is through a PFI and with that you don't own the building.

"PFIs are hog-tied agreements that stop officers from tasks as routine as changing a light bulb. During the Kingsnorth climate change protest, a meeting was even held to decide where to place a rubbish bin and a table to serve officers tea and coffee."

However, Kent Police have said the system is a good one. Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beautridge said: "The majority of staff in North Kent are delighted to be working in an outstanding new building that is one of the most modern police stations in the country.

"There have been massive benefits for us in moving to a central location and it means we can deliver better policing.

"By using a contractor to undertake routine service work we free up staff to concentrate on what matters – reducing crime.

"We are delighted with the equipping and quality of the new station and look forward to working from there for many years. Our relationship with the contractor is excellent."

Simon Redman, director of finance for Kent Police, said: "There is an agreement in place to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of PFI police stations which address situations such as the changing of light bulbs and the maintenance of toilets.

"The contractors are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings and have to adhere to strict agreements. That means if something goes wrong they need to address it within an agreed time or face a penalty. They have round-the-clock helpdesks that allow staff to report any issues by phone or email.

"We believe this offers a more comprehensive package than in the old stations. The helpdesk is no more bureaucratic than previous processes.

"We have to remember that the supplier is responsible for maintaining the building, including anything placed on the walls. They hold the risk and will pick up any cost if something goes wrong, which is why we advise staff not to take on maintenance jobs themselves."

News and sport updated daily online
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India jail appeal to Foreign Secretary

THE parents of a former City worker jailed in India on drug-smuggling charges are appealing to the Foreign Office for help.

Patrick Malluzzo, of Dartford, was given a 10-year jail term in 2004.

He has launched an appeal against his conviction but this has been adjourned 12 times in three months.

Mr Malluzzo was sent to prison after cannabis was found in a bag he had lent to a friend while travelling.

He has always maintained his innocence and claims he only confessed to the offence after police burned him with cigarettes, beat him and deprived him of sleep.

His parents met Foreign Office officials to appeal for help from Foreign Secretary David Miliband. Teresa Malluzzo, Patrick's mother, said: "I want to be able to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries and Christmas with all my family. I want to be reunited."

Campaign group Fair Trials International said Mr Malluzzo has been wrongly convicted and was refused an interpreter during his trial, in the state of Rajasthan, which was conducted entirely in Hindi.

Spokesman Jago Russell said: "Patrick's conviction was a travesty and although he has a right to an appeal under both Indian and international law, he has waited years to clear his name. We are urging the Foreign Secretary to help us persuade India finally to hear Patrick's case."

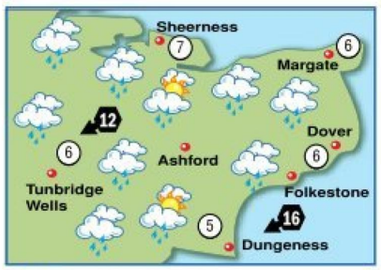
Mr Malluzzo's parents have re-mortgaged the family home to help pay their legal bills.

He was backpacking in India in 2004 when a friend took his bag from Rajasthan to Goa in order for him to travel more easily.

The friend accidentally left three bags, including Mr Malluzzo's luggage, on a train. They were found to contain 42lb of cannabis resin.

Mr Malluzzo claims the first he knew about it was when he was arrested at Mumbai airport as he tried to leave India.

Kent today



TODAY: It looks set to be cloudy with light rain for a while. Heavy showers during the afternoon. A possible isolated shower during the evening too. Moderate north-easterly winds. Max temp 4-7C (39-45F).
TONIGHT: Mostly dry with clear spells and variable cloud. Gentle winds. Min temp 0-3C (32-37F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	4	39	London	cloudy	7	45
Belfast	fair	5	41	Liverpool	fair	6	43
Birmingham	cloudy	6	43	Manchester	cloudy	6	43
B'mouth	fair	7	45	Newcastle	cloudy	5	41
Bristol	cloudy	7	45	Norwich	showers	7	45
Cardiff	cloudy	6	43	Oxford	cloudy	6	43
Cork	cloudy	7	45	Southsea	cloudy	7	45
Edinburgh	fair	3	37	S'hampton	fair	6	43
Glasgow	fair	5	41	Southport	fair	6	43
Isle of Man	cloudy	7	45	Swansea	fair	7	45
Leeds	cloudy	4	39	Torquay	cloudy	7	45

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.54am	Sunset	3.45pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	4.58am	Moonset	1.20pm	3.45pm to 7.55am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	08.19	6.0	20.55	5.9	09.12	6.1	21.43	6.1
Margate	09.18	4.3	21.54	4.3	10.15	4.4	22.42	4.4
St Mary's	01.56	4.9	14.22	4.9	02.48	5.0	15.13	5.0

Week ahead

monday Showers. max 5C min 1C
tuesday Showers. max 6C min 1C
wednesday Light rain. max 6C min 1C
thursday Cloudy. max 5C min 0C
friday Cloudy but dry. max 5C min 0C
saturday Sunny spells. max 5C min 0C

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CANTERBURY

Who received Gordon's Christmas phone call?

By NICK AMES
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PRIME Minister Gordon Brown made a call of two hours and 42 minutes to a mystery number in Canterbury from his Scottish home.

The time, length and geographical destination of 21 calls were disclosed when the BT bills submitted as part of his expense claims were published by the House of Commons. The numbers were blacked out.

The telephone line in his constituency home is likely to be used by his wife, Sarah, as well as the Prime Minister.

The documents give a glimpse into the personal life of Mr Brown, showing repeated calls to Canterbury, including one of one hour 50 minutes starting at 10.29pm last Christmas Eve.

In total, six calls were made to the same number in the Canterbury area. Downing Street declined to comment on who the recipient was. But the most likely person would be Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams, who had been due to preach at the Christmas Day service in the Cathedral.





ON THE LINE: Prime Minister's expenses revealed calls to a number in the Canterbury area

However the Archbishop's office denied the calls were made to Dr Williams.

"They 100 per cent were not," a spokeswoman said.

Other suggestions have been made that the Prime Minister was calling to contact his deputy leader Harriet Harman, whose sister Sarah runs a law firm in Canterbury.

A Labour Party source said: "Harriet is a visitor to Sarah's home on occasions so I would think it most likely that the Prime Minister was calling his deputy.

"Last year, for instance, the family got together to watch one of the younger members play at a concert at Margate Winter Gardens. There are strong links between the Harman family and Canterbury."

The calls came to light after phone bills submitted as part of the Prime Minister's claims for Additional Cost Allowance were published as part of the latest release of expenses-related receipts.

The first call, at 22.15 on March 27 last year, lasted one hour and 44 minutes but was only the third longest of six made to an unknown number in the city or surrounding area. Canterbury shares its 01227 code with Herne Bay and Whitstable..

A run of four calls were then placed between October 23 and November 3, with one running for just 17 minutes but two lasting nearly an hour and one a marathon two and three quarter hours.

All but the short call took place late in the evening or at night. The last recorded call began at 10.29pm on December 24, last year, and did not end until 19 minutes past midnight on Christmas Day itself.

It is not known if similar calls were included in the Prime Minister's claims last year as individual entries on the bill were hidden under a more restrictive censoring system in place then.

A Downing Street spokesman said: "Expenditure on phone bills is allowed under the ACA rules and the Fees Office has cleared this expenditure.

"Sir Thomas Legg has also conducted an independent audit of these expenses and found no fault. Obviously we are not going to comment on individual phone calls."

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Beauty spot power lines coming down

COUNTRYSIDE near Dover is to be transformed by the dismantling of power lines in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

EDF Energy is removing 1.5 miles of overhead lines from St Margaret's at Cliffe, near the Frontline Britain Trail which is popular with ramblers. Engineers will be installing underground cables this week using specialist machinery to minimise disturbance to the landscape.

Once the underground electricity cables are ready the overhead network will be switched off and removed, including 27 poles, conductors and three transformers.

A fireside concert

THE Kent Youth Wind Orchestra will be performing A Fireside Christmas concert on Sunday, December 20.

It will be at Astley Hall, Maidstone, from 5pm-6.30pm, and conducted by Captain Guy Booth, bandmaster of the Royal Engineers and director of the Band of Royal Corps of Signals.

The music will include songs from the animated Christmas film The Snowman and other seasonal classics. Visit www.kent-music.com or telephone 01622 691212 for more information.

Games of pontoon

A PONTOON is to be attached to the pier in Gravesend in a bid to attract tourists travelling by boat to and from the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Gravesham council's plans for a detachable pontoon with ticket kiosk alongside Gravesend Town Pier, off West Street, have now been approved by its regulatory board.

The council expects the pontoon to be used by ferries and pleasure craft carrying tourists wanting to visit Gravesend.

It is part of the council's plans to boost the borough's tourism industry by capitalising on the 2012 Olympics by attracting sightseers visiting nearby Stratford for the Games.

Weak £ = expensive firs

THE plummeting value of the pound is being blamed for a shortage of real Christmas trees this year.

And those who do manage to find a real tree will be expected to pay at least 20 per cent more than last year.

The shortage is being blamed on the poor exchange rate where tree sellers in Britain are finding it too expensive to buy the popular Nordmann firs – which don't shed their needles – from Denmark, where they are grown in bulk. According to industry insiders, the cost of imported trees has risen by 30 per cent because of the weak pound.

Axing of EU subsidies five years ago has also led to Danish suppliers cutting back on the amount they export, with the usual 2.5 million trees reduced to about 500,000 this Christmas.



POPULAR: Nordmann fir

Martin Clews, owner of Stonepitts Farm in Sevenoaks, said although some farms in the UK, mainly Scotland and Northern Ireland, grow their own Nordmanns, they tend to be sold outside the UK.

"Most people want Nordmann firs, but there aren't enough being imported," he said."The ones grown here are exported because growers can make more money. They are popular in France and Germany.

"There is a risk people won't be able to get one this Christmas and even if they do they'll be paying more. Sellers in the UK importing them from Denmark are having to push the prices up to cover rising costs.

"I haven't done this at my farm as we have fixed prices, but I've already sold half my stock and I'm expecting to sell just as much this weekend."

Mr Clews said although there are other types of trees, people prefer the Nordmann.

"People don't want trees that drop needles and some of these have been known to give people rashes," he added.

The lack of Nordmann firs, which take 10 years to grow, means other trees will be snapped up quickly and retailers are advising people to put in their orders quickly.

Jenny Schroeder, of Kingswood Christmas Trees in Maidstone, agreed there was a real shortage. "People from as far away as the Isle of Wight have been calling to buy trees from us," she said. "We even had someone from Spain who's coming for Christmas calling to reserve one.

"We grow our own Nordmann firs so we're not struggling, but other traders are. Some places are really pushing their prices up. One has added an extra £12 on to the price of a 6ft tree."

The average price of a 6ft Nordmann is £25-£30, but this could vary with the shortage. The British Christmas Tree Growers' Association confirmed there was a shortage of Nordmann firs and that people would have to consider other types of trees.

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Morphy Richards family and pets bagless upright vacuum cleaner
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Per Square Metre

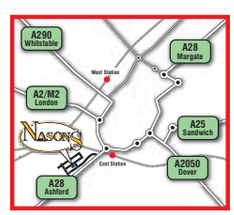
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Can KCC keep up the good work?

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

Why we have some of UK's best services

DESPITE facing a threatened £200 million shortfall and job losses, Kent County Council is promising to keep a 'high standard of service'.

The pledge came from leader Paul Carter this week after an Audit Commission report saying county taxpayers have some of the best public services in the country.

The assessment found KCC was "performing excellently" and placed it joint leader in the county council league tables.

The review looked at how well services were provided in relation to the priorities of the community, council and other public bodies.

And council leader Paul Carter is confident high standards can be maintained: "People have been saying for years that KCC will not keep up these standards, but this shows we can. I have every belief this will continue despite the budget."

Two inspection reports were carried out; one looking at KCC as an organisation and the other at its work with partner agencies, including the public sector, voluntary organisations and the business community.

For the eighth year running it scored the highest possible overall rating and was this year singled out for exceptional achievements.

The Audit Commission praised it on its strong leadership.

The authority was also awarded two exceptional accreditations for improving young people's education and skills and the new Gateways service, which provides public, community and voluntary services under one roof.




TEAM: Cllr Paul Carter and chief executive Peter Gilroy have worked well together

Cllr Carter said: "We have ensured our young people have job opportunities and training, that crime rates are low, vulnerable people are cared for and public health services are improved."

He also put the success down to the good working relationship between himself and chief executive Peter Gilroy.

Mr Gilroy, who has been at the council for almost five years, will leave in May.

Cllr Carter said "We've got to make sure we bring the right person in for the job and we will continue to maintain the high standard we have set over the years."

But the new chief executive is unlikely to land the salary enjoyed by Mr Gilroy, who came under criticism earlier this year when his salary of more than £210,000 was revealed.

Following a review of senior civil servants' salaries, Prime Minister Gordon Brown said he would cap pay rises.

Cllr Carter said: "I'm not saying Peter is not worth the salary he's on, but things are changing and salaries have to be reviewed.

"I don't think this capping will affect the type of candidate we attract though."

Mr Gilroy paid tribute to the staff, elected members and partner agencies who helped achieve the high standards in the report.

Areas praised by the Audit Commission included adult social care services, safeguarding of children and education. Work on employment, transport services, the environment and health care and well-being were also commended.

To see how Kent is doing in full go to www.direct.gov.uk/oneplace.

Medway wins praise as well in Audit report

MEDWAY Council has received praise from the Audit Commission in its first ever Comprehensive Area Assessment.

The authority, which came under scrutiny for the first time this year, was judged as "performing well" and commended for tackling issues of high priority to local people.

The assessment is split into two areas; organisational, which focuses on how well the council is performing, and area, looking at partnership working and what people think of what is being done.

Medway Council was told it works particularly well in keeping the area clean and safe, caring for children and the elderly, and dealing with transport, homes and jobs.

The assessment also found that most of its services were of good quality, the council was good at managing money and that councillors and staff worked well together.

Negative findings showed school results in the area were mixed, with achievements by the age of 11 below the national average.

It also stated that Medway had fewer primary schools rated as good, but noted the authority was tackling this issue.

Council leader Cllr Rodney Chambers said: "This points to the strong evidence of the hard work the council does to improve the lives of residents. However, I am aware that the report has highlighted some areas where we need to do better. We have already introduced plans to improve and will be monitoring the progress."

Chief executive Neil Davies added: "I would like to thank our staff for all their hard work and am pleased that this report judges us as performing well."

Concern as sea rescue base moves out of Kent

THE life-saving air sea rescue service based at Manston is set to be relocated to the Midlands at the end of this month.

But campaigners are warning that the delay in reaching emergency scenes because of the extra miles could cost lives.

The plans have been put forward by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency as part of moves to reorganize emergency services.

South Thanet Conservative parliamentary candidate Laura Sandys said she understands the relocation will take place on December 31: "We are hearing that the plan is to move the aircraft to Coventry. This means it will take extra minutes to get to the rescue scene and those extra minutes could cost lives...

"The system we have works very well because the airport properly accommodates the service. That would not be the case at Coventry. In my understanding it is a busier airport so more barriers to emergency response would go up.

"I also understand that Coventry Airport is in administration, so the service would in turn have to be moved to Birmingham – an even busier and further away airport."

Canterbury MP Julian Brazier has written to Paul Clark, the Transport Minister with responsibility for shipping, who plans to scrap emergency flights from Manston.

In his letter Mr Brazier said: "Responding to a Dover alert, [the sea rescue plane at Manston] can be up and at the scene within half an hour, but normally within 20 minutes from the alert – this includes travel time and all airport checks.



RISK: Laura Sandys and Julian Brazier fear the move may put lives in danger

"This service covers rescue across the Channel, which is the busiest waterway in the world. It also forms part of the protection for leisure boats, yachtsmen, our fishing fleet and commercial shipping."

Mr Brazier continued: "Even without the necessary air traffic checks and without travel time to the aircraft, the time from Coventry to a Channel site would be 35 minutes. This makes those safeguarded by the current arrangement more vulnerable...

"I am deeply concerned about this proposal."

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Launch of domestic high-speed rail service with 140mph bullet trains brings

The future has arrived

SPECIAL REPORT

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A LANDMARK in British transport history has been reached with the full domestic launch of high-speed rail travel between Kent and London.

The £5.8 billion High Speed 1 (HS1) service has been running from selected stations on a trial basis since June, but has today been rolled out across the rest of the county.

Commuters will be able to travel from Ebbsfleet to St Pancras in just 17 minutes – most people in under an hour.

Lord Andrew Adonis, Secretary of State for Transport, said it was a landmark for British transport. "This service will bring in new business and boost house prices and regeneration across the county. It will not only serve commuters, but the communities that have been hit hard by economic conditions.

"These are the fastest trains to operate in Britain and this will be seen as a milestone across the country."

Transport minister Paul Clark said HS1 was as significant for Kent as the Channel Tunnel and the M2 and M20 motorways.

The Gillingham and Rainham Labour MP said: "The importance of high-speed options cannot be overstated in terms of job creation and opportunities.

"It's fantastic for people to be able to travel from somewhere like Ashford to St Pancras in just 37 minutes, but it will also mean increased capacity for mainline trains too.



PULLING POWER: The full high-speed timetable is now in operation, bringing a long-promised revolution in transport to the county and – it is hoped – many economic benefits in its slipstream

FACT FILE

Hitachi Class 395 train

- Maximum speed – 140mph on HS1; 100mph on standard lines
- Weight – 268.5 tonnes
- Length – 121.3m (398ft)
- Width – 2.81m (9ft 2in)
- Height – 3.81m (12ft 6in)
- Seats per train – 338
- Capacity (including standing) – 508
- Built from aluminium for lightness and strength
- CCTV in each carriage

"But really I'd like to see fewer people travelling to London for jobs and more travelling into Kent, because HS1 will bring with it job opportunities locally."

Japanese bullet trains travelling at a maximum speed of 140mph will make commuters' dreams come true, although high-speed fares have increased by about £8 per journey.

Last week Cllr Nick Chard – Kent County Council's cabinet member for the environment, highways and waste – said he believed most workers would happily pay extra to spend more time in bed or at home after work, and Mr Clark agrees.

He said: "Everyone will make their own judgements and price will obviously play a part in that. But there have been domestic services running since the summer and the level of take-up has exceeded expectations, so there has been a great deal of interest even in the difficult economic times we face."

The HS1 service represents the first major UK contract for Japanese train manufacturer Hitachi, which in October, 2007, opened a £52 million depot in Ashford.

Head of maintenance Andy Barr told KOS Media the trains were the safest in operation, and they had travelled under test conditions for 50,000 miles before any passengers had set foot on board.

Mr Barr said: "This is an important day for us because high-speed rail travel is going to raise the bar for the transport industry.

"There will always be a need for mainline trains for local travel, but we are quite keen on the high-speed element and would very much like to see that extended.

"The service is called High Speed 1 because it will be the first of many."

Agents expect property revival to pick up pace

THE introduction of high-speed rail services to London today could also quicken the pace of Kent's property market revival.

House-builders and estate agents hopethe promise of shorter journey times to the capital will prompt commuters to buy homes near train routes, with such properties expected to increase in value over the coming months.

Christian Miles, a partner at estate agent Miles and Barr, said the market in Kent appeared to be picking up.

He said: "In relation to the rest of the country, we have been quite busy in the areas where high-speed rail links are coming in.

"We're a member of the Home Sale Network , made up of 800 branches across the country, and we seem to be more positive about the market than most.

"I've no doubt that's partly due to High Speed 1, as well as the regeneration of areas such as Thanet and Folkestone.

"It's difficult to know how much value will eventually be added to properties, but what we are seeing is that homes within five or 10 minutes' walk of high-speed lines are already very saleable and extremely let-able.

"Areas close to stations have held their values much better because of the awareness of the rail links, and that's only going to increase as time goes by."

Mainline journey times from Canterbury to London are about 110 minutes, but HS1 will allow commuters to reach the capital in less than an hour. Piers Clanford, operating director for Berkeley Homes (Capital), said interest in the firm's Canterbury development Kingsbrook Park was gathering momentum as a result.

He said: "Locations further out in Kent are going to become commuter hot spots. Canterbury was previously regarded by most as too far away for commuters, but will now become a viable option for those working in central London, with the journey time under the magic hour mark.

"Canterbury is set to follow the same path as Brighton, with commuters looking for a more rural, tranquil place to live away from the city but still within commuting distance.

"We have seen a rise in inquiries from buyers looking to address the balance between quality of life and commuting."

Despite being the county town, Maidstone is one of the only locations in the county that does not have direct access to High Speed 1.

So it's not surprising that Maidstone-based Simon Miller Estate Agents hasn't noticed any difference in house prices or sales, despite commuters being able to reach an HS1 station relatively easily on the mainline.

However, Mr Miller said he was confident other areas would benefit from the new service.

He said: "It's got to make a difference eventually because getting to London so quickly is going to be a huge advantage to people.

"There will be people who buy property specifically for the high-speed links."



capital within an hour of Kent commuters and promises a transport revolution

FACT FILE

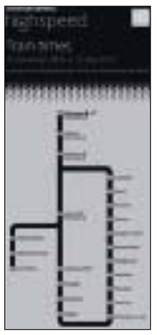
High-speed timeline

- December 18, 1996 – Channel Tunnel Rail Link Act passed in Parliament
- September 28, 2003 – Section one of rail link opens between Channel Tunnel and Fawkham Junction, north Kent
- November 14, 2006 – brand name High Speed 1 adopted by London and Continental Railways
- September 4, 2007 – Eurostar runs itsfirst train on HS1 between Paris and St Pancras, in record journey time of 2hr 3min
- October 2, 2007 – Hitachi opens £52m bullet train depot in Ashford
- November 14, 2007 – Section two of rail link opens between Ebbsfleet and St Pancras
- June 29, 2009 – Southeastern launches domestic trial service between Ashford and St Pancras
- September 7, 2009 – Domestic trials expanded to Ramsgate, Canterbury, Dover and Folkestone
- December 13, 2009 – Southeastern launches full domestic HS1 timetable

Shaking up the timetable

KENT stations will benefit from between three and 12 morning rush-hour services with the arrival of High Speed 1.

The introduction of the 140mph bullet trains has contributed to one of the biggest timetable shake-ups in more than 40 years, with more than 150 stops scheduled every day between 7am-10am.



As one of the service's main hubs, Ebbsfleet will receive 12 trains during that period while there will be six at each of Medway's five stations as well as at Gravesend, Sittingbourne, Faversham, Margate and Broadstairs.

The new Southeastern timetable – which includes normal mainline services – will provide passengers with more than 200 extra trains per day and boost capacity by five per cent.

However, HS1 fares will increase by about £8 per journey to pay for the technology, adding about £730 to annual season ticket prices. For example, a return ticket from Ashford on HS1 will cost £48.70 compared with £40.60 on the mainline, and an annual season ticket will cost £4,536 compared with £3,780. Regular commuters are being advised to visit www.southeasternrailway.co.uk to see how the changes affect them. Managing director Charles Horton said: "We've worked hard over the years with stakeholders to be able to get to this point and this new timetable is very important for Kent.

"It will provide more choice for passengers, see the full introduction of high-speed services and help us continue to improve performance levels.

"The majority of passengers will see an improvement in services, but as with all timetables compromises have had to be made and not everyone will be satisfied. However, once we've introduced the timetable we will monitor services closely and work with the Department for Transport to make any adjustments which are necessary."

Ramsgate, Canterbury West, Ashford, Dover and the two Folkestone stations will each receive five morning rush-hour services per day, while there will be three at Whitstable, Herne Bay and Birchington. Maidstone has been left off the high-speed map altogether, but KCC has revealed plans to build a new station in the county town and link it to HS1.



ALL CHANGE: Bullet train and regular Southeastern service side by side



COMFORT ZONE: Inside new train

ECONOMISTS are predicting a bright future for Kent as new businesses look to take advantage of improved transport links to London and the Continent.

While generally expected to be of great benefit to commuters travelling into the City, insiders believe HS1 will work both ways and convince business people to set up shop in the Garden of England.

Mandy Bearne, director of marketing at Locate in Kent, said: "One thing the county often suffered from – perhaps incorrectly – was the perception that it was peripheral to London.

"Now we can say it most definitely is not. It's not going to happen overnight, but the fact we are now that much closer to London in terms of train times might tip the balance for some firms.

"We've always marketed Kent as being a great place to relocate to because it is more cost-effective than London while still having good rail and road links to it. But now we have the benefit of much quicker trains as well as maintaining our great links with the rest of Europe."

Tony Pringle, chairman of the east Kent branch of the Federation of Small Businesses, said HS1 was "the best thing that's happened here for years".

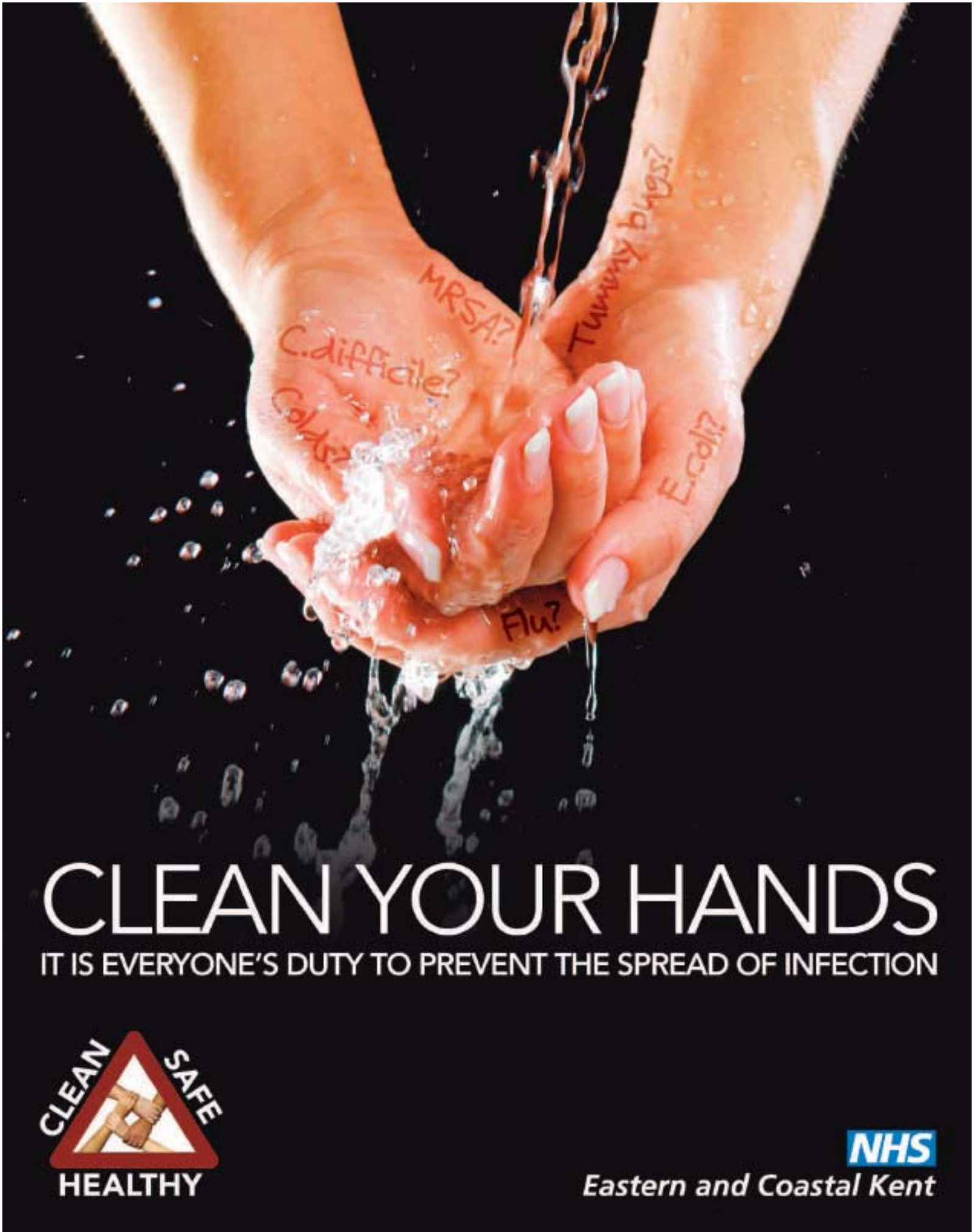
He added: "Setting up a business is a long-term issue and there are more issues than good train links that need to be addressed. But it will obviously help convince some firms to locate here, and not just because it's quicker to get to London.

"The service also provides better links with the Midlands and the North, which is very important.

Kent's position means it has been cut off from the rest of the country, but that's no longer the case and I'm very positive about it.

"I think it's a brilliant service."




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Why Copenhagen is key for Kent's future

TACKLING climate change is vital for the future of Kent's farming and water supply, say environmental experts, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The warning came this week as world leaders met for the Copenhagen Summit to try and reach an agreement to stop global warming.

The two-week conference, which runs from December 7-18, marks an important step in the fight against climate change as 192 countries join together to try and solve the worldwide problem.

Richard Knox-Johnston, chairman of Protect Kent, a branch Campaign to Protect Rural England, told KOS Media he hopes politicians will start to look towards the future instead of focusing on the short-term.

"They need to stop looking just five to 10 years ahead and focus on the bigger picture 100 years away," he said. "They should learn from Victorian leadership – there are still drains working in London that were built in the Victorian era."

Mr Knox-Johnston said the Copenhagen Summit is particularly important for Kent.

"This area of the UK is very significant – it comes only second to Cornwall in the large amount of coastline it has," he said.

"One of the major threats facing us here is sea-level rise."

Scientists say this is a result of global warming where higher temperatures cause land glaciers to melt and thus sea levels to rise.

They also increase when heat from the atmosphere is absorbed by the sea, causing it to expand.

Mr Johnston said: "There is a lot of low-lying land in Kent. There's Romney Marsh, Sandwich and the area that separates Thanet from the rest of the county. If sea levels rise there is a risk of us losing more and more of our agricultural land.



WASHED OUT: If sea levels rise there is a risk of Kent losing valuable agricultural land

"With other countries already suffering drier summers and lack of water they will be less likely to want to export crops when they are having problems growing produce themselves. We have to be self-sufficient and grow our own food, therefore agricultural land is very important to us."

Mr Knox-Johnston said the National Farmers' Union revealed that 55 per cent of grade one agricultural land is less than five metres above sea level.

"Scientists have said that if all the glaciers melted at the same time sea levels would rise by seven metres," he said. "Now this isn't necessarily going to happen, but it highlights that Kent would definitely be affected.

"We've also had much warmer, drier summers and as a result we have been using water from the aquifers, but it is not being replaced as quickly as it is being taken.

"More and more houses are being built and the population is growing so the need for a sustainable water supply is vital."

PM INVITES KENT INVENTORS TO NUMBER 10

TWO top scientists have been praised by Prime Minister Gordon Brown for their groundbreaking green invention.

University of Greenwich at Medway doctors Paula Carey and Colin Hills have developed a technology that captures carbon dioxide and turns it into rock. It simultaneously converts contaminated soil and industrial waste into harmless pebbles that can be recycled as a construction material.

The innovative product even has potential to help dispose of radioactive waste.

The Prime Minister invited the doctors – who have set up a company called Carbon8 Systems – to No 10 along with other leading low carbon economy inventors.

He said: "Our transition to a low carbon economy will be a key driver of our future economic prosperity.

"Carbon8 Systems is at the forefront of this transformation.

Dr Carey said she was hoping to expand the business, saying: "We have already produced the first concrete block with our carbonate aggregate, and are working towards getting approval from the Environment Agency.

"We are now in talks with the major waste management companies in the UK, with a view to securing funding for our first commercial plant.

"We will then explore opportunities worldwide.

Fire service gets watchdog praise

FIREFIGHTERS have been praised in a watchdog's latest report.

The Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority (KMFRA) is said to perform well, have strong leadership and a good grasp of its finances. The Audit Commission's One Place report also includes a residents' survey, where 81 per cent have said they are satisfied or very satisfied with the level of service they are receiving.

Highlights from the assessment include praise for the quick response to emergency calls, which is better than the UK target; actions to prevent fire and incidents, which saw more than 14,000 home visits last year; and KMFRA's ability to deal with major events, including the Channel Tunnel fire in September, 2008.

Stand-up comic in stand down

COMEDIAN Michael McIntyre walked away from a £28,000 fee after he discovered the waiting audience was full of debt collectors.

The comic was due to perform at London's O2 arena at a private party for West Malling-based Cabot Financial Limited, but refused to perform at the £200,000 event less than half an hour before it was due to start.

Reports claimed the 33-year-old performer said that entertaining the crowd on Friday would have been "against his principals", having faced his own financial problems.

A spokesman for the star said: "Michael was in debt himself and has a conscience."

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Tighter controls of 'helpful' parents on GCSE coursework

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

CONVENTIONAL GCSE coursework is in the process of being scrapped in core subjects after concerns over possible cheating.

Wide access to information on the internet and "over-helpful" parents are being blamed for the changes, which were cited in a report by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority in 2006.

Kent schools are now seeing the result of the findings with new controlled assessments being brought into English, maths and ICT to replace coursework. These assessments have already started being introduced and will be rolled out over the next two years.

Instead of traditional coursework – which can be drafted numerous times with the help of teachers and parents and also carried out at home – pupils will undertake supervised projects in class, alone or in groups. Access to books and the internet will also be strictly controlled. The Government's 14-19 Education and Skills White Paper stated that with coursework it was "sometimes difficult to authenticate a student's contribution to the quality of the final product".

One Kent teacher, who asked not to be named, said: "With added pressure on teachers through the National Challenge, some may be tempted to help pupils a bit too much with their coursework, or parents may help to ensure their child gets good grades."

The National Challenge is a Government-led scheme aiming to see 30 per cent of pupils at all secondary schools achieving at least five higher grade GCSEs, including Cs in maths and English.

He added: "In some schools there are almost 50 per cent of children with special needs and yet they are expected to achieve the same as children of a higher level."

A spokesman from the Department for Children, Schools and Families said: "Essentially, cheating was not the driving force for these changes although some teachers have said it will stop others helping too much with coursework.

"I think teachers admit to being under a lot of pressure with the National Challenge and so GCSEs are being looked at to see how to assess students in a better way.

"Plagiarism or cheating hasn't been highlighted as a major problem though. We have safeguards in place when it comes to marking to try and stop anything like this."

Other reasons behind the scrapping of coursework were concerns over pupils being over-burdened with unnecessary assessment requirements, difficulties in regulating work and easy access to information over the internet.

Andrew Olsson, headteacher of Charles Dickens School in Broadstairs, said: "It used to be teachers with all the knowledge, but some pupils now go on the internet and take ownership of something they have read. But how do you know that what you are reading on the internet is right?

"Children are developing their research skills, but not in the library any more."

Mr Olsson said controlled assessments could take up valuable learning time, but put the new scheme down to the ever-changing education system. "It wouldn't surprise me if in five years there was a new way of doing things," he added.

Pressure

Asked whether he believes some parents help children too much with their coursework, he said: "There has been the rare occasion when this has happened but I don't think there's too much of a problem.

"Parents obviously want their children to do well and there is real pressure on teachers too, but coursework is regulated."

A spokesman from Ofqual, the regulator of qualifications and exams in England, confirmed the new assessments have been introduced in some schools already.

He said: "New specifications for GCSE English, English language, English literature, ICT and maths are being introduced in September, 2010.

"New specifications are also being developed for GCSE science subjects in September, 2011. In the majority of new GCSE specifications being introduced, controlled assessment is replacing coursework.

"Controlled assessment takes place in the school and is either set or marked by the awarding organisation."

News and sport updated daily online
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Research uncovers first ice age Channel-hoppers

STARTLING new evidence has been uncovered proving it was once possible to walk from Dover to Calais, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

And academics behind the new findings have said this will be possible again – but not for another 60,000 years when we enter the next ice age.

According to research by Cambridge geography professor Phil Gibbard, people would have been able to walk from Britain to France as recently as 9,000 years ago, at the end of the last glaciation period.

Before these findings, evidence had shown that a prehistoric 'super-river' carved out a divide between Britain and Europe 450,000 years ago, making Britain the island it is today.

The river, called the Fleuve Manche, was formed when a huge glacial lake in the North Sea overflowed, causing a 'mega-flood' that sent water surging between the hills and rocks – now the Dover Strait – that separated England and France.

But during glaciation periods, the water level would drop and people could wade to Calais from Dover, providing a major migration route.

In warmer times, however, Britain would have been cut off, as it is today.

Prof Gibbard said: "We always suspected the Dover Strait was created by an overspill of a giant river that cut off southern England from northern France."

But details of the timing and nature of the river were incomplete, so his team carried out a study in the Bay of Biscay where the Fleuve Manche met with the ocean and discharged layers of sediment that have been untouched for thousands of years.

The study found the Fleuve Manche existed at the end of three ice ages – 450,000, 160,000 and 90,000-30,000 years ago – and in each case the volume of sedimentary material increased significantly.

Prof Gibbard said: "This is the first time we have looked at what flowed in and out of the English Channel and into the Bay of Biscay during these crucial periods.

"It provides the final piece in the puzzle, forming a complete record that reconstructs the dramatic events that cut Britain off from Europe and gave it its island status."

During periods of glaciation, Britain and Europe were joined and people and animals would have been able to cross the 22-mile stretch.

"Their feet would have got a little bit wet, but it was shallow enough to cross," said Prof Gibbard. "The colonisation of the British Isles was very much controlled by the presence of this valley system.

"One of the things arising from this study is our ability to understand what arrived in Britain and when."

He added: "Britain as an island is only a temporary situation. When the next ice age comes, which will be in around 60,000 years, people will be able to walk to France.

"We will move into a colder climate. In past ice ages trees and crops didn't grow – this is what people in the future will have to look forward to."

'Telemedicine' team notch-up national award

THE team behind a revolutionary life-saving treatment for stroke sufferers have won a prestigious national award.

The stroke and IT teams of East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust won the coveted HSJ Award 2009 for Improving Care with Technology.

The team equipped the A&E departments at Margate and Ashford and Emergency Care Centre at Canterbury with the latest 'telemedicine' technology 18 months ago.

This allowed anyone brought to hospital suffering from stroke to be assessed by a consultant stroke physician through a high-definition video link immediately – 24 hours a day.

Because stroke consultants can use the telemedicine link to assess patients from literally anywhere, precious time is saved, and potentially life-saving treatment can be administered within a few hours of a stroke.

Royal opening for skills centre

PRINCESS Anne officially opened the Catch22 North Kent Vocational Skills centre this week.

The centre in Gravesend caters for young people who have been excluded from school, and are at risk of, or are, offending.

It is set up as a fully equipped motor garage run by two qualified mechanics who support the young people in their learning.

Sessions use donated vehicles and professional equipment to offer practical hands-on training on every aspect of motor vehicle repair and maintenance.

The new facility will offer a wider range of vocational opportunities including building skills, plumbing and electrical, painting and decorating, and IT courses.



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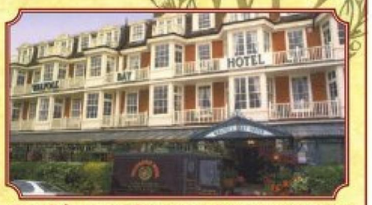
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MUSICAL YOUTH: DaylightSaving and Da Mushrooms (centre) have signed to C3U Records

Music department is striking right chord with its record label

By **MATHEW BEECH**

A UNIVERSITY has signed up four new bands to its own independent record label.

Canterbury Christ Church University runs C3U Records and has given deals to Da Mushrooms, DaylightSaving, Banu and The Mop Collective.

All the bands include current students of the university's music department.

Diverse

The record label is run by commercial music and music industry management students at the university as part of their degree studies, and hosts a diverse range of promising acts from the South East.

C3U Records helps its artists through the recording industry process, including managing, recording and releasing songs digitally and physically and using contacts to help with publicity.

Composer and co-ordinator of C3U Records Ethan Maltby said: "We have a tremendous roster of artists this year covering a wide range of musical genres.

"It's great to see such collaboration between the students. The artists bring students in to perform on the recording, which is carried out by production students, before the finished product is marketed by the music industry management students.

"It all comes together to give an insight into the various processes of a record label."

The four acts' records will be released in February and will be accompanied by a tour of university campuses and London venues.

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Tragic Haniska's drugs warning

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A DEVASTATED mother whose daughter died after taking cocaine on a night out has stepped up her fight against "parasite" drug dealers.

Angela Pett, from Gravesend, has worked with Kent Police to get giant images of 20-year-old Haniska projected on to the wall opposite the town's Tesco with a slogan warning people off drugs.

And to make sure everyone takes notice, the 46-year-old is planning to get them rolled out across the whole of Kent.

"It's saying to kids, don't pay to die," she said. "It's not worth it – look what happened to Haniska."

The young hairdresser had been out with friends in October, 2008, when she bought the 'cocaine' that killed her.

Unknown to her, it been cut with worming tablets, amphetamines and MDMA and contained just five per cent cocaine.

After taking the drug she started fitting and was rushed to hospital but died seven hours later, leaving her mother Angela, her father Ian, 48, and brother Joe, 23, devastated.

Angela said: "This campaign has made sure Haniska's death wasn't a complete waste. If her death can warn other people off drugs, then some good can come out of it.

"I've already received brilliant feedback about the giant slides. A police officer heard two boys at a bus stop talking about the images. One said to the other, 'See, you never know what you're sticking up your nose'."



MOTHER'S MESSAGE: Angela Pett with a photo of her late daughter, Haniska

Angela has been working closely with Kent Police since her daughter's death and has also featured in a hard-hitting television advert on ITV warning about drugs.

A car rally was held in October with 51 vehicles travelling from Gravesend to Southend to raise awareness of the campaign and Angela is also planning talks at schools. "Haniska would have loved all this if she was alive," she said.

Angela admits her daughter should not have been taking drugs and said they had spoken about the dangers. But she places most blame with the dealers, who she says get people hooked then make money by bulking out their drugs with whatever they can get hold of.

She also says the old stereotype of a 'druggie' has changed and it is young professionals taking recreational drugs.

"This campaign is helping me get through the grief of losing Haniska," she said. "It makes me feel her death wasn't a waste. It's helped the whole family. We were all hit very hard. I often hear her brother Joe in her room chatting to her and every morning I go in and say 'hello'.

"Since we've changed her urn, freaky stuff has been happening in the house. I think it really helps me cope, feeling she's always there with us."

The images can be seen on the side of the wall by Tesco in Gravesend until 11pm every night. More than £1 million of cocaine has been seized in the county in the last 18 months by Kent Police.

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From heroin to hero as Peter cleans up his act

A FORMER heroin addict is to be reunited with his family this Christmas after beating the drug that has controlled his life since the age of 15.

Earlier this year, Peter Beale, of Kemsley, Sittingbourne, was on the brink of losing everything due to a £500-a-week habit which had led him into a life of crime and jail sentences. In January he was issued with his third Drug Rehabilitation Order and his partner, Esther, admitted to being unable to cope any more.

Mr Beale said: "I didn't want to lose my family, that would kill me. Esther said she wasn't putting up with it any more and I decided this was it.

"I was fed up with waking up every day and feeling ill and spending my whole day thinking how I was going to get enough money for heroin."

The 30-year-old was subsequently separated from his family until he could prove he could live without drugs.

He said using heroin felt like peering through a dirty window that he couldn't see beyond.

He said: "When I got my first clean test I was over the moon. People now say I'm an inspiration to them. I tell them that if I can do it, so can they."

While most children were out playing with their friends, Peter began dabbling in drugs and was addicted to solvents at the age of 12.

His first hit of heroin was at 15 and by the time he was 17 he was hooked and had already had a spell in a young offenders' institution.

When released he continued a life of crime to feed his habit and admitted to committing at least two crimes a day, resulting in court appearances and jail sentences. Now clean, Peter revealed the shame he feels when looking back over his past.

"I'm ashamed of what I have done and I'd like to say sorry to the victims," he said.

He also said that when he was on drugs he saw the police as the "enemy".



TOGETHER: Peter Beale turned his life around after partner Esther told him to choose between heroin or his family

"I thought they were meddling, but now I see them in a completely different way. PC Karen Cook has helped me. She phones to see how I am getting on and visits weekly.

"One time I got a lift with a former dealer and she knew about it straight away and phoned up to ask what I was doing.

"She knows my family and knows the whole picture. I don't think the police are bad any more, they're just doing their job."

Peter said the PCSOs in his home town even pull him over to say how well they think he is doing.

He added: "I never expected that from the police."

Peter said it was through sheer determination and the support from Kent Police, drug and alcohol service KCA and Esther that he beat his addiction.

PC Cook, a drugs liaison officer at Maidstone police station, works closely with him. She said getting to the root of why people commit crime was as important as arresting and charging them.

"An enormous number of crimes have been prevented," PC Cook said. "When you think Peter was committing at least two crimes a day, but hasn't for eight months. He's now a different person and it's great to see."

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THE MOTORISTS' NO.1 CHOICE FOR CROSSING THE CHANNEL

‘I will do anything to get a stable life’

NICK AMES travels to Calais to meet the migrants trying to get to Kent, and some of the people who travel from the county to help clothe and feed these people hoping to start a new life in the UK…

THE basement of an anonymous backstreet building in Calais holds supplies vital to the survival of some of the most destitute people in Europe.

Not medicines, drugs or vaccines, but simply blankets, sleeping bags and clothes – protection against the cold as winter draws on.

A dedicated group of Kent-based volunteers who run the place live in fear of a police raid and the confiscating of their supplies – after all, helping refugees is a crime under French law.

Attacked and imprisoned by police, using battery acid to remove identifying fingerprints and vilified by many in the country they want to make their home, the migrants live in conditions of squalor as they nightly try to conceal themselves onto Dover-bound lorries.

But some still have time to practice cricket in the area set aside for feeding them – work undertaken by charities with money from local government.

Afghan asylum seekers learnt the game after spending time in Pakistani refugee camps.

“Inshallah” (God willing) they say in the hope they might one day bowl on an English village green.

The supplies have been taken across the English Channel by ferry by activists working for Kent Refugee Help.

They say it is vital that aid reaches the migrants after their camps were torn down and destroyed by police earlier this year.

The supplies are kept in the cellar of a building away from prying eyes. Rooms contain bedding, clothes and footwear, all of which has been donated.

The migrants can come and get what they need – a constant stream as temporary shelters are destroyed by police.

The latest area for Afghans to congregate became known as the New Pashtun Jungle – an area of woodland criss-crossed by paths and backing on to a lorry park. Signs of recent habitation are everywhere and it appeared to have been abandoned in a hurry.

Ahmed is from Afghanistan and recently arrived in Calais after a three-year journey from his homeland.

“I paid $6,000 (about £4,000) to the people smugglers to get me here,” he said.

“I first set out in a truck for the border with Iran and despite frequent road checks in that country I made it across with help from friends in the city of Isfahan. Kurds smuggled me into Turkey – I was there for two years before I managed to get across the border.

“After that I took buses across Europe – always getting someone else to buy my ticket as I had no passport and no identification.

“My life in Afghanistan was hell. I left all my friends and family, but I knew I had to take a chance. I think I will be given the chance to work in England. I will do anything to get a stable life.”

The migrants face daily harassment from police, with the CRS riot police the most aggressive. Migrants picked up in Greece and Italy are often fingerprinted and their details kept on a database. If they are stopped again they can be deported to those countries, but they then frequently make the same journey across Europe again.

Some have taken to using battery acid to remove prints by burning off skin, while others have set fire to their hands.

Achmed is also from Afghanistan and has been in Calais for some months.

“The police chase us like we are animals,” he said. “I have been put in prison three or four times and I have been hit by them.”

But not all police behave in that manner.

Some migrants tell of being given lifts to their shelters by police while another said he had been given coffee and offered wine.

Michel Flahault is a French charity worker.

He said: “We are here because they are here – someone needs to help them.”

The actions of the volunteers comes at a time when there is renewed criticism of the establishment of refugee help centres in France from Richard Ashworth, Conservative MEP for Kent.

He said: “It is clear the closure of the Calais Jungle in September was conducted without an adequate strategy in place to deal with the situation and so we are seeing a return to the ‘migrant travelling circus’.

“What is obvious is that all EU governments are not fulfilling their obligations to halt the entry of illegal immigrants on Europe’s southern borders.”







Pictures: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL LTD

HELLISH: Some refugees have taken to burning their fingerprints off to avoid identification

FRENCH PLAN A ‘HONEY POT’ FOR REFUGEES

PLANS to open a centre in Calais to help economic refugees have outraged the Conservative spokesman on immigration.

Ashford MP Damian Green said: “I think it is an insulting idea. All it will do is encourage more illegal immigration through Kent. I am appalled that the French Government is setting it up.

“It will act as a honey pot for potential illegal immigrants all around the world and it will encourage more people trafficking. It is the worst possible idea there could be.”

The new day centre, which would be built next to an industrial estate in the town, is due to open before Christmas.

It will be run by the charity Catholic Help which estimates there are more than 1,000 migrants congregating in the area trying to make it to the UK.

Mr Green said the French Government was passing the problem on to the UK.

“The French should deal with these people in the proper way. They can apply for asylum in France, if they do not want to do that they can be returned home.”

As the winter draws near the charity says something has to be done to help those most in need.

Mr Green said the Government also needed to do more to stop the UK being seen as an attractive destination for illegal migrants.

He said: “First we need our own border police force to make our borders more protected. I think a lot of people are attracted here because they think it is easy to work illegally in Britain. That is why we need a specialist border police so we can be more affective at cracking down on illegal work.

“We also need to establish international agreements to avoid this encouragement by other countries, particularly France, to encourage people to try their luck coming across the Channel.”

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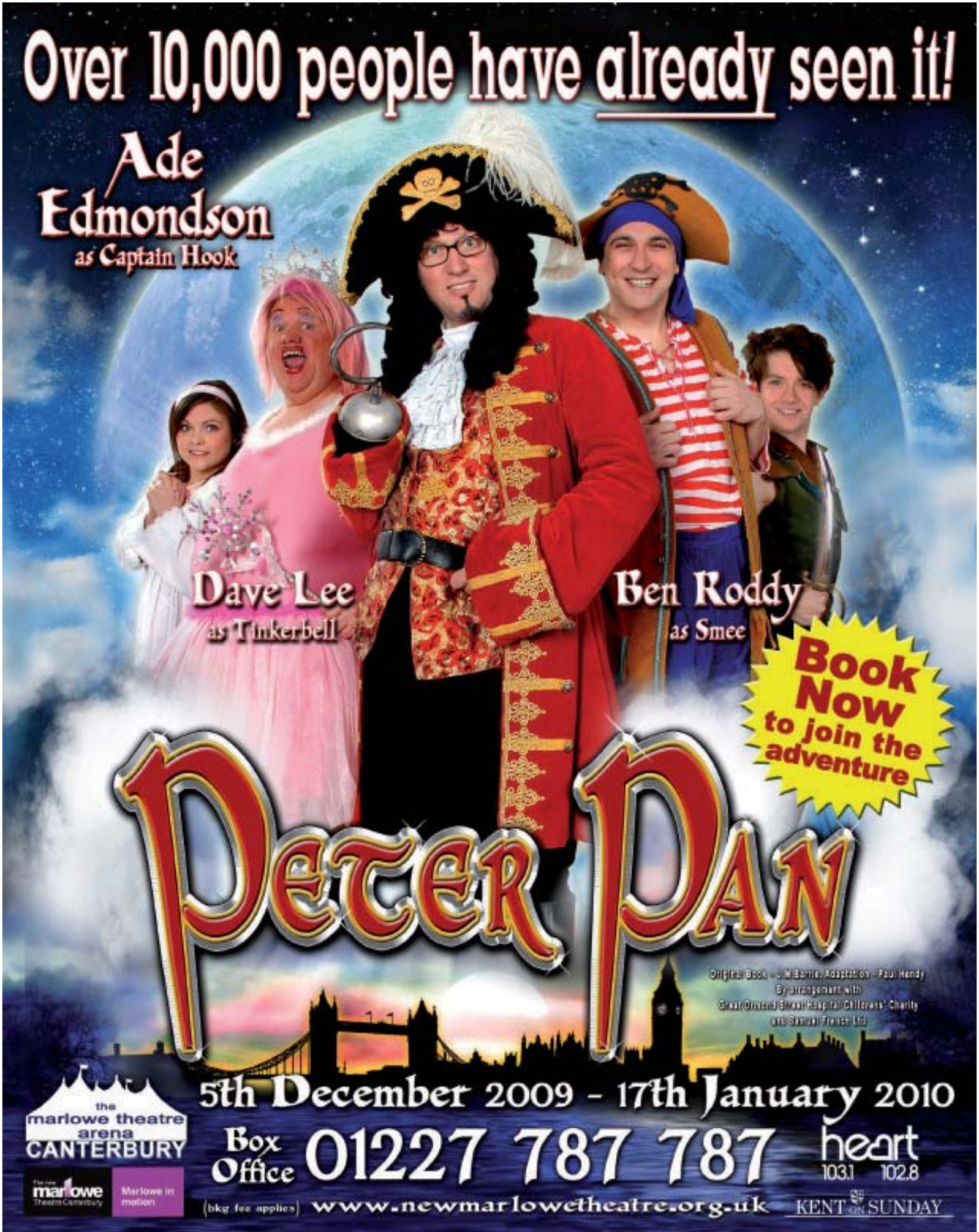
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Murder charges

MURDER charges have been brought against two men after the death of a father who was beaten up outside his home, leaving him in a coma.

Paul Hopkins, 32, suffered head injuries in the attack at his home in Beechholme Drive, Kennington, on August 2. He died four months later. Christopher Goldfinch and Scott Stevens, both 22, were charged with murder when they appeared before Ashford magistrates.

Mr Hopkins was a father of six and had recently married his long-term partner. Goldfinch and Stevens were remanded in custody and will appear at Maidstone Crown Court on Monday.

Astra gang hunted

POLICE are hunting a gang who stabbed two teenagers and hit another in the face with a bag of bricks. The five white men pulled up in an old-style green Astra, attacked the 17-year-olds and drove off.

The unprovoked attack happened at 3am on Sunday, December 6, in East Street, Erith.

One victim suffered a stab wound in his back; one was stabbed in his upper arm and hip; and the third received cuts and bruises to his face. All were taken to hospital for treatment and later discharged. The attackers are all aged about 20 and one had blond hair.

Fly-tipping arrests

SEVEN Medway men have been arrested after fly-tippers struck in Gillingham.

The men, aged from 17 to 48, were arrested after reports that people were emptying rubbish in Ash Tree Lane on December 4. They were released on bail until January 13.

The martyrdom of St Alphege

EXACTLY one millennium ago, in the winter of 1009, Kent was shaking as a reedbed rustling before the wind, ***writes John Withington***.

In August had come the terrifying news that an immense Danish army had landed at Sandwich. The county had been the first place in England to be raided by fearsome Viking warriors when they descended on the Isle of Sheppey in 835.

Over the next few years it was the part of the country that suffered most from these unwelcome visitors, with homes destroyed and people slaughtered or dragged off into slavery. Sandwich was one of their favourite ports of arrival; they had attacked it on half a dozen occasions before 1009.



This time, English king Ethelred the Unready had tried to give the lie to his nickname by building a huge fleet to resist them, but in-fighting among the nobility and an untimely storm had destroyed his navy.

Now the invaders were ashore and Kent lay inviting and helpless before them.

The leader of the Danes was a seasoned warrior named Thorkell the Tall. His raiders were in an even more belligerent mood than usual because in 1002 Ethelred had tried to find a final solution to Danish raids by ordering a massacre of all Danes in England.

First, the invaders made for Canterbury. There was some history here, too. The Danes had attacked the city in 851. This time the citizens sued for peace, and the people of eastern Kent stumped up a huge sum of Danegeld – protection money or tribute – to buy off the raiders. The Danes went away to despoil other parts of southern England, before coming back to take up winter quarters on the Isle of Thanet.



KILLED: Canterbury Cathedral carving of St Alphege's martyrdom (left) after his capture by Danish raiders

They tried a couple of raids on London, but were driven off with heavy losses. After Christmas, it was the turn of other towns – including Oxford, Cambridge, Bedford, Thetford, Ipswich and Northampton – to be burned to the ground.

At least it kept the Danes away from Kent until 1011. By then, pickings must have been getting thin in the ravaged county, but still they "went about everywhere in bands and robbed and slew our unhappy people", as one chronicler put it. In September, they were at the gates of Canterbury again and after a 20-day siege a treacherous archdeacon started a fire that allowed them to take the city.

People were put to the sword, burned in the flames or flung from the walls. Infants were thrown onto the points of spears or crushed beneath chariot wheels, until nine inhabitants out of 10 were dead. At that time the Archbishop was Alphege, a man of peace who had a track record in negotiating agreements under which the English paid Danegeld and the Danes went away – for a while. Now the Vikings led him off in fetters.

The Danes' enjoyment of their triumph was diluted when hundreds were died from "excruciating disorders of the bowels", but after the Archbishop had been held for seven months, their pain was alleviated by the payment of more Danegeld. The invaders wanted more, though, and demanded a ransom for Alphege. Bravely, he insisted none should be paid. The Vikings were furious. Thorkell tried to save the archbishop, offering his soldiers everything he owned except for his ship, but to no avail. The raiders pelted the man of God with "bones and heads of cattle", it was said. Then when he was seriously injured, one delivered the coup de grace with an axe.

So Alphege became a martyr, the first Archbishop of Canterbury to die a violent death. Later he would be made a saint and today churches are named after him.

Thorkell was so disgusted that he joined King Ethelred, while the Danes departed. In 1013, they were back at Sandwich again – not as raiders, but conquerors.

Thorkell changed sides once more, becoming the right-hand man of Cnut (who used to be known as Canute), and helped him seize the throne of England. Indeed, when Cnut was absent from his new kingdom, it seems Thorkell ruled as regent.

• More tales of disasters in Kent can be found in John Withington's book A Disastrous History of Britain, published by Sutton. His daily blog can be seen at disasterhistorian.blogspot.com.

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Terry's film tribute

A HARD-hitting short film made by young women from YWCA West Kent is to be screened in nightclubs.

Familiar Faces uses still images to tell the story of a woman who leaves a party alone, bumps into a man she recognizes and subsequently gets attacked.

It will be screened in Davinchi's and El Mono in Tunbridge Wells over the festive period.

One of the film-makers, Chantal Samways, 19, said: "We made the film in memory of Terry Edmonds, our friend who was murdered at just 17. The film highlights the real dangers out there and how to change our actions and behaviour so we can be safer."

A good neighbour

POLICE are urging residents to look out for their elderly neighbours this winter.

Officers say neighbours can make a difference by checking if milk, post and newspapers are being taken in regularly.

Distraction burglaries and bogus officials also increase in the winter months as crooks target the elderly and vulnerable. Acting Sergeant Marc Cananur said: "A few simple steps taken by neighbours can make a big difference."

A few chilling facts

RESEARCH has revealed a third of us find food in the freezer we'd forgotten about or can't identify, says Kent Waste Partnership.

UK households keep £860 million of food in freezers, but many of us have doubts about freezing some foods and believe freezing is for long-term storage only.

Cllr David Brazier, KCC's deputy cabinet member for waste, said: "Most of us never freeze foods if we've over-catered, even though freezing means we can to eat them later. Kent Waste Partnership is giving advice on what we can freeze and it's practically everything."

Go to www.lovefoodhatewaste.com for tips.

Workplace racism must stop, NHS trust warned

AN NHS trust has been warned it could face legal action if it fails to stop race discrimination in the workplace, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust was issued with a compliance notice by the Equality and Human Rights Commission this week, stating it was in breach of the Race Relations Act.

The commission said the trust was failing to address the Act's 'race equality duty' which requires public bodies to stop racial discrimination at work.

It also calls for the promotion of equal opportunities and good race relations.

But the commission believes the Kent and Medway trust is failing to do so.

The trust specialises in mental health provision, covering learning disabilities, substance misuse and other conditions. It now has three months to put a race equality scheme in place or face legal action.

Susie Uppal, director of legal enforcement at the Equality and Human Rights Commission, confirmed the trust was under scrutiny. "It has been found to be in breach of the Race Relations Act," she said. "They can avoid legal action by providing a satisfactory response to our letter and taking steps to meet their requirements under the Act.

"NHS trusts have a legal obligation to take a lead on promoting racial equality and the commission will ensure they fulfil that obligation."

The commission said the trust has failed to put in place schemes that meet the race equality duty including:

- An assessment of functions on policies relevant to race equality;
- The arrangements for monitoring purposes for any adverse impact on the promotion of race equality;
- Assessing and consulting on the likely impact of proposed policies on the promotion of race equality;
- Training staff on how to adhere to the duty.

The trust was also told it must take particular steps to improve employment monitoring and address the lack of equality impact assessments on its policies.

Bullied

The commission's compliance notice follows a report published last year by the South East Coast Black Minority Ethnic Network (BME) which suggested black and ethnic minority health workers in Kent were facing discrimination in the workplace.

It stated high numbers were being bullied, harassed or were involved in disciplinary procedures at health organisations across the county. More than 27 NHS bodies in the South East Coast Strategic Health Authority covering Kent, Surrey and Sussex were analysed and it found ethnic minorities were being disadvantaged.

Ms Uppal said: "Race equality schemes have a crucial role to play in removing unfairness and disadvantage against minority groups. They help ensure racial equality is a central part of the way public authorities provide their services. The commission has an obligation to investigate possible breaches of race equality law by public authorities and take action where it is warranted."

In response to the compliance notice, an official from the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust said it was confident all the requirements would be met in the three-month period.

"The trust has been in regular contact with the commission about its compliance with the Act since it was raised," she said.

"An action plan has been in place since February to ensure all our policies are equality impact assessed."

She said the trust's single equality scheme, which is due for approval on Wednesday, had been through a comprehensive consultation process.

"The trust is completely confident it will meet the needs to reassure the commission of its compliance against the Race Relations Act by February, 2010, as stated in the compliances notice," she added.

Candy Morris, chief executive of NHS South East Coast, which represents the trust, also stressed health bosses were committed to leading the region to full compliance with all equality duties.

"We will continue to work in partnership with the commission and with all organisations across the region to ensure compliance is sustained and ongoing," she said.

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Director Jackson wants to film a 3D remake of classic WWII movie

By MIKE GUNNILL and NICK AMES
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

LORD of the Rings director Peter Jackson wants bouncing bombs to leap out at audiences in his hi-tech remake of the classic 1954 World War Two film The Dam Busters.

It has taken longer to plan than the original mission, which saw Lancaster bombers from 617 Squadron breach the Mohne and Eder dams and damage the Sorpe dam in an attempt to cripple German industrial output.

"I think a World War Two bombing raid in 3D would be neat," said Mr Jackson.

The director is currently shooting experimental three-dimensional aerial footage in New Zealand. Providing the trials go well, the plan is to remake The Dam Busters, as the first war film to be shot using the new technology.

Authentic

Christian Rivers, who was responsible for the animation in Jackson's version of King Kong, is assisting him on the £24 million project.

The director said he wants his film to be "as authentic as possible and as close to the spirit of the original as possible".

Current production work includes the use of 10 replica Lancasters made from fibre glass and ordered from China.

The director and his team made secret visits to key UK locations last year – including the coast at Reculver where the bouncing bombs that breached the dams were tested and witnessed in action by their inventor Barnes Wallis.

The original film starred real-life war hero Richard Todd as bomber ace Wing Commander Guy Gibson, and was a major inspiration for Jackson who saw it as a child.

He even had a poster advertising the film on his bedroom wall.

Todd, who was suffering from cancer, died peacefully in his sleep last week aged 90.





BOMBER COMMAND: Peter Jackson is at the controls of new Dam Busters

Dam Busters legend given added bounce

Jackson said: "There's that wonderful mentality of the British during the war, that heads-down, persevering, keep-on-plugging-away mentality, which is the true spirit of Dam Busters."

It took intervention from Tenterden-born Sir David Frost – who owns the rights to Paul Brickhill's 1951 book on the history of the raid – to get Mr Jackson involved, however.

Stephen Fry has been involved in writing the screenplay after Mr Jackson bought him on board.

"I yield to none in my admiration for him as a film-maker," said Mr Fry. "I had no idea he would be interested in this story."

Operation Chastise was the official name for the attacks on the thick concrete German dams on the night of 16-17 May, 1943.

The Mohne and Eder dams were breached in the attacks, causing a catastrophic flooding of the Ruhr valley where much German industry was based, while the Sorpe dam sustained only minor damage.

The first formation arrived over Mohne lake, and Gibson's aircraft – aircraft codename G for George – bombed first.

Flt Lt John Hopgood – M for Mother – attacked second. His aircraft was hit by flak as it made its low-level run and then caught in the blast of its own bomb and crashed shortly after, when a wing disintegrated.

Further casualties were sustained as Gibson heroically flew his aircraft across the enemy gunners' aim to draw their fire

The Eder Valley was heavily fogged but not defended. The tricky topography of the surrounding hills made the approach difficult. The final bomb of the formation, from Australian Flt Lt Les Knight's Lancaster, breached the dam.

The massive earthen Sorpe sustained only minor damage in the raid.

Of the 133 aircrew who took part in the attacks, 53 died – a huge casualty rate by Bomber Command standards.

A total of 34 decorations were awarded including a Victoria Cross for Gibson.

Although hailed as great success at the time for setting back Hilter's war machine, the raid has subsequently been questioned.

Large numbers of civilians died and a prisoner of war camp holding Russian troops was devastated.

However, it is still among the most famous missions of the conflict and as well as the film and remake it has spawned books, video games, clips shown in Pink Floyd's The Wall movie and even an advertisement for Carling Black Label beer which has a German soldier saving the bouncing bombs goalkeeper-style.

Jackson has pledged to be as historically accurate as possible and has been helped by the recent release of previously classified information.

He said: "So much was still secret, especially the testing at Reculver when Michael Anderson's original version came out.

"They weren't even allowed to show the bomb itself and had to create a fictionalised one for the film."

Reculver couldn't be used at the time because the area was still restricted and a site near Skegness in Lincolnshire was used for the bomb-testing scenes in the first film.

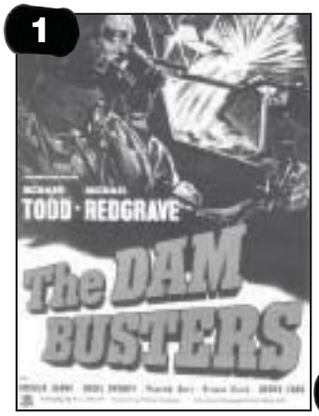
Last year a statue was of inventor Wallis was unveiled on Herne Bay seafront as a permanent reminder of the part he and the area played in the Dam Busters story.

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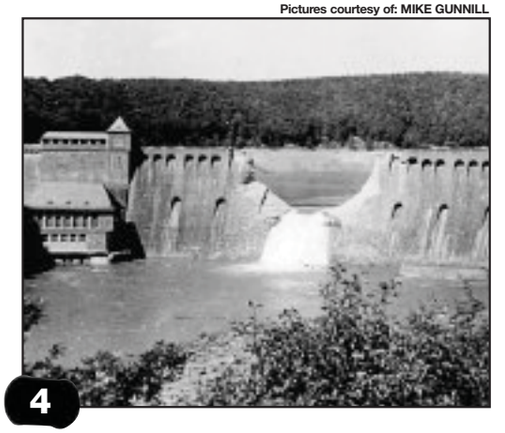
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HISTORY MAKERS: 1) Poster from original movie, The Dam Busters; 2) Wing Commander Guy Gibson, who was awarded the Victoria Cross; 3) Bomb testing at Reculver; 4) The Mohne dam after the mission; 5) Bouncing bomb inventor Barnes Wallace with actor Michael Redgrave during filming in the 1950s

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Dame supports recycled cards to trees scheme

MOVIE legend Dame Judi Dench has called on the county's residents to recycle their Christmas cards.



Dame Judi Dench

She is working with the Woodland Trust on the recycling scheme and donors can choose where in the county they would like trees funded by the scheme to be planted.

The Oscar-winning actress is asking residents to support the woodland conservation charity by recycling Christmas cards in special bins at WHSmith, TK Maxx and Marks & Spencer, throughout January.

After recycling your cards, you can log on to www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/cards and choose which UK region you would like the Woodland Trust to plant trees in.

Dame Judi said: "We all enjoy giving and receiving Christmas cards, well thanks to the Woodland Trust there is the chance for a second giving and receiving opportunity this year.

"I would like to challenge people in Kent to give to the environment, recycle their cards and then receive trees for their environment by going to www.woodlandtrust.org/cards and choosing where the new trees generated by this year's recycling should be planted."

Since the Woodland Trust started its Christmas Card Recycling Scheme 12 years ago, 659 million cards have been recycled across the UK.

Some 13,080 tonnes of cards have been collected, allowing the Trust to plant 155,000 trees.

Kent's 'social enterprises' are a secret success story

KENT is leading the way in the UK when it comes to social enterprises, according to business experts.

Recent draft figures have shown the relatively unknown industry is responsible for around 50,000 jobs in the county, with a turnover of £1.2 billion.

But industry insiders admit people are still unsure exactly what a social enterprise is.

Charles Bicker, chief executive of the Kent and Medway Social Enterprise Network, told KOS Media these companies are the way forward in the provision of public services.

"Our current government and the leader of the opposition are agreeing that this is the future," he said.

"Social enterprises are like normal businesses where they compete to deliver services, but their main purpose is to give something back to the community. Profits made from a social enterprise are invested back into the business for a social benefit."

It means instead of been driven by targets or making profit for shareholders, they are focused on local communities.

Entrepreneurs

There are around 900 social enterprises in Kent, one of which is the Skillnet Group, a community interest group funded by Kent County Council that works with people with learning difficulties.

It focuses on making links with the community so people with learning difficulties are not segregated and can become more independent.

Chief executive and co-founder Jo Kidd said: "We are a not-for-profit organisation and became a social enterprise company in 2005.

"I definitely think this form of working is the way forward. In terms of business it is better because it looks at the bigger picture regarding the community and the environment.

"It means a lot more social responsibility and not being focused on making money, meaning it is more sustainable.

"Social enterprise companies are all about being sustainable and being more involved in terms of community development."

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

Mr Bicker said social enterprise provides a win-win situation for everybody, with three important factors involved.

"Firstly, the company must show a willingness to engage with the community," he said.

"Secondly, the Government must show a willingness to engage with the social enterprise company with a level of trust it doesn't have with the private sector. Finally, the talent of social entrepreneurs and innovative work for the public good is very important."

A new scheme called Innovation for Health has been set up between Kent County Council and the three NHS primary care trusts.

It aims to look at how commissioning from local authorities can have a greater social impact when working with social enterprises, which could provide the health services.

Any return gained would be invested back into the social enterprise company and used again to provide services for the public.

Sustainable

Cllr Graham Gibbens, cabinet member for adult social services, said: "Kent County Council is working with the NHS and PCT to focus on how health and social care investment can be met and remain sustainable.

"Nationally Kent is leading the way on the social enterprise front. Not only is it getting more people into work, but it is really meeting a public need."

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Help for new breed of businesswomen

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A NEW centre has been set up dedicated to helping women from all walks of life fulfil their dreams and become the next hotshot entrepreneur.

Managers behind the scheme are also hoping to get hard-to-reach women, such as housewives or those reliant on state benefits, back into the workplace to help boost the county's economy.

According to research carried out by the Annual Small Business Survey, women starting up in business will tend to provide a more immediate economic contribution.

The new Business Link Women's Enterprise Centre, based in Chatham, has already helped a number of females from across the county start up their own companies by teaching them vital skills.

And with only 15 per cent of the 4.7 million UK enterprises being led by women, Janice Sandwell, enterprise manager, said it is important they get this help.

"If you've been out of work for a while or don't have the necessary skills it can be very daunting to try and get heard," she said.

"A lot of the business terminology that's used can be off-putting, especially for women who haven't been in work for a while.

"We help break it all down and show them it's not as difficult as it looks.

"We can link them up with the right people, talk them through business plans and help them follow their dreams."

The centre caters for all women, including those with a disability or even women for whom English is their second language.

Rescue

Trisha Alleyne, from Gillingham, said the new programme came to her rescue and she is now the owner of a modelling and entertainment agency.

The mother-of-four had been in the fashion and music industry for 22 years, but had to take a break after suffering a relapse with a rare form of multiple sclerosis.

It affected the right side of her body and she was paralysed for 18 months in 2004.

But the 42-year-old has now got her life back on track.

"Through the centre I've now set up my agency, which also has a training academy," she said.

"This isn't just a modelling agency. We teach courses in make-up, exercise, modelling and lots more, plus it focuses on ensuring young people have the skills needed if they want to go to college, such as literacy and numeracy skills.

"I couldn't have done all this without the help of the women's centre. I had a one-to-one mentor who helped make my idea real.

"With my MS I still have difficult days but my advisor has been a great help.

"This has been a massive challenge for me and I would encourage anyone, even if they have a disability, to just go for it and follow their dreams.

"It's wonderful that there is something in Kent dedicated to women."

Research by the Commission for Equality and Human Rights said at the current rate of progress it will be another 60 years before women in the UK achieve equality on company boards.

The programme is funded by the South East England Development Agency.

• ***For information visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast.***

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'And the winner is ...' yet to be voted for by YOU

SARAH ORTON of Produced in Kent looks at how success in the Taste of Kent awards can open up new opportunities

FEW of us could say we haven't dreamed of hearing the words '... and the winner is ...' being spoken to us at some time in our life.

Whether it's the lottery, a business award or a competition, we know those four little words can be the start of a new chapter.

For the last five years, a dozen or so companies each year have enjoyed the experience of winning a Taste of Kent award.

Launched by local food and drink champions Produced in Kent, every year the public has the opportunity to nominate their favourite food and drink products, producers, retailers and restaurants.

Earning a Taste of Kent award has proved a life-changing experience for many winners, as Butterfly Meadow discovered when it picked up the Innovative Product of the Year in 2008 for it unusual fruit leather, a natural dried fruit snack.

Owner Steve Dansey says the award has helped transform the company and fruit leather now makes up 80 per cent of his business compared with just 25 per cent last year.

And the company has gone from selling solely at farmers' markets to a business that now generates 70 per cent of its turnover from wholesale trading.

Mr Dansey said: "These awards really do make a difference and help transform companies. Winning a Taste of Kent award was the ultimate catalyst to make fruit leather our core product.

"We gained a huge amount of publicity and enjoyed a very successful exhibition in London thanks to our award.

The prize money enabled us to put together a professional business plan with outside experts and to achieve our vision for the product."



The Plough, at Stalisfield Green, underwent a similar metamorphosis when the business won Kent Pub of the Year and staff found it such a positive experience they hope to win a second Taste of Kent award in future.

Landlord Robert Lloyd said the award was a real turning point for the business and the media flurry that followed helped the rural pub significantly increase its presence, with The Plough advertising its win on menus and website.

Mr Lloyd said: "Winning the award was a fantastic morale boost to the business and really cemented our belief that we were taking the pub in the right direction.

"It is important the public have a chance to vote as it allows small businesses like our own to go up against businesses with much more financial clout. A public vote followed by the Taste of Kent awards' judging panel is a very fair system allowing the best businesses to shine through."

The Plough certainly epitomises a Taste of Kent with its local Kentish ales, beers, cider and wines served alongside its fantastic local menu.

Mr Lloyd explained: "Our efforts to produce traditional food using the best local ingredients seem to be welcomed by customers. People visit The Plough for our simple, unpretentious, but well-cooked food using the best of local ingredients and served in a beautiful pub building and location."

A regular supplier to The Plough is Ramsgate Brewery, another Taste of Kent award winner with the brewery reaping the benefit of the public's vote last year when it won Best Kentish Beer with its Gadd's Number 3.

Brewed entirely with local hops, Lois Gadd describes the beer as the modern, true taste of east Kent. "It's testament to the quality of these hops that the beer was judged Best Kentish Beer and confirmation that buying local means buying tasty."

Lois described the win as a "real boost", while both staff and customers were lifted by the regional recognition. As well a raised profile in the media, Ramsgate Brewery has been able to incorporate the win into its signs and bottles, adding further kudos to the award-winning product.

The Taste of Kent awards raises public awareness as to the fabulous products we have on our doorstep in Kent. For too many years we've all been conditioned to think that food sourced food from elsewhere is somehow superior to local produce, when the opposite is the reality.

For more details, visit www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk.



OUTSTANDING: Last year's contenders in the Taste of Kent awards enjoy their big night out at Leeds Castle

Cast your vote today...

WITH the nation in the grip of X Factor fever, consumers across Kent are being invited to vote for a different type of talent altogether.

For the rest of December, people have the chance to vote for their favourite food and drink products, producers, retailers and restaurants in the Taste of Kent awards.

Everyone who takes the time to vote before January 3 at the website www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk will be entered into a prize draw for a night for two with breakfast at the elegant ABode Hotel, Canterbury. Whether you place votes in one category or all 12, everyone will be entered into the draw.

The top three nominations in each category will be either judged or visited by an expert panel of judges and the 12 winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in February at Leeds Castle, near Maidstone.

So, who will you nominate on www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk? The categories are:

- **Kent Butcher/Meat Producer of the Year**
- **Best Kentish Beer**
- **Best Kentish Wine**
- **Best Kentish Cider or Perry**
- **Kent Juice Producer of the Year**
- **Kent Local Food Retailer of the Year**
- **Kent Seafood Retailer of the Year**
- **Kent Food Product of the Year**
- **Kent Food Producer of the Year**
- **Kent Restaurant of the Year**
- **Kent Pub of the Year**
- **Kent Farmers' Market of the Year**

Taste of Kent overall sponsor is Whitehead Monckton. Category sponsors include Seeda, Kent Life, WK Finn-Kelcey, KCC, Biddenden Vineyards, Bennett Opie, Barclays, Visit Kent, Kent Frozen Foods and Hadlow College.

You've got to admire her sauce. And Alice's lamb

LAST week saw the sizzling final of the prestigious Kent Young Chef Award, organised by Produced in Kent.

Eight students battled it out at Thanet College under the watchful gaze of children's TV presenter Neil Buchanan, of Art Attack, who presented the awards.



ALICE BROWNING: Kent Young Chef

Also watching the cook-off were Produced in Kent patron Amanda Cottrell, Mayoress of Broadstairs and St Peters Mave Saunders, and prospective parliamentary candidate for Thanet South Laura Sandys.

The eight finalists, aged between 11 and 16, were given two hours to cook and serve their original main course recipes, all of which had to feature local and seasonal produce. After a couple of hours of frenetic action in the kitchen at Thanet College, Alice Browning from St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive, Chatham, was named Kent Young Chef in the junior age group.

She produced Romney Marsh lamb with chocolate peppermint sauce, made with mint grown in her own garden.

Alice said: "This is so exciting, I can't believe it. I got really nervous at the beginning and end and it was very hot in the kitchen. But I just tried to keep cool and get on with what I had to do."

James Dye, of Swan Valley Community School, Swanscombe, won the Kent Young Chef senior award

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

High-speed travel works both ways

THE arrival of high-speed rail travel between Kent and London has, quite rightly, been hailed by Transport Minister and Gillingham and Rainham MP Paul Clark as a significant step for the county.

Not only will it attract more businesses and boost regeneration, but people wanting a life out of the City while earning London wages will be able to do so without that long, tiring daily haul to and from work.

Instead, they can reach St Pancras from Ashford, for example, in 37 minutes which, in a lot of cases, is quicker than getting from one part of London to another.

They can then come home and spend their hard-earned cash in Kent's shops, which need all the help they can get in these tough times.

There is a definite buzz on the street that London and all it has to offer is now even closer. But this isn't just about us being able to get to the capital. It's also about getting Londoners to realise what we have to offer, too.

The Garden of England awaits – and it's less than an hour away.

Needled by Danes

PANIC has gripped the nation as word spreads of a Christmas tree shortage caused by Danish farmers reducing supplies.

But let's look at this positively. If it puts a stop to the horrific lighting displays adorning far too many houses in Kent, surely this can only be a good thing.

OPINION: Chilling out at Copenhagen?

Time is short, but we must not fail future generations by fudging response to climate crisis, says Steve Dawe



POLITICAL leaders, scientists, activists and lobbyists have converged on Denmark for the most important conference since Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin divided Europe at Yalta in 1945.

At stake is nothing less than the future of the Earth. If we don't radically cut greenhouse gas emissions in the next six years or so, global warming will change coastlines and crop patterns, alter rainfall, devastate species, allow the spread of diseases such as malaria and make parts of the world uninhabitable.

What has brought us to this situation? Rising temperatures and carbon dioxide levels since 1970.

For the previous 650,000 years, weather cycles followed regular patterns. But since 1970, our emissions – from transport, buildings, domesticated animals, and fossil fuel energy sources etc – have grown dramatically.

To be safe from drastic changes in our climate, we need the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to be no more than about 350 parts per million.

Unfortunately, we are already above 387. This leaves us with the challenging task of – for example – reducing UK greenhouse gas emissions by 90 per cent by 2050.

Can this be done? Yes – and the changes of technology involved will create a new industrial revolution and new employment.

First, let's look at how Kent will be by 2050 if we follow the scenario offered by those who deny human-induced climate change.

Sea levels will rise, causing serious erosion of coastlines and estuaries and moving saltwater further inland. Low-lying areas such as those between Herne Bay and Birchington, Medway and Romney Marsh will become vulnerable to storm surges and, eventually, permanent loss to the sea. Wetter winters, caused by rising temperatures keeping moisture in the atmosphere, will become more common – like the November we've just had.

Seasonal flooding is likely and spending on flood defences will increase. Summers will gradually become more like that of 2003: long, hot and very dry. Summer temperatures will break previous records, going above 40C regularly. When temperatures rise above body temperature, some people will be seriously affected and may die in the heat – as 35,000 did across Europe in 2003.

Fruiting species that need frost in winter as part of the growth cycle will eventually have to be replaced. Kent's wine growing areas may increase, temporarily.

Wetter winters and hotter summers will make agriculture more challenging and reinforce the tendency of more people to grow their own food and collect rainwater.

Food and water prices will rise. We may come to judge people as rich not because of their income, but in terms of how much food they grow and how much water they store.

If warming continues up to 6C above current levels, the extremes of weather will become even worse. If, however, we act in line with the Green Party's approach to climate change and demonstrate our commitment to future generations, including our own children, then we need to takes steps quickly.

We must radically reduce use of fossil fuels by cutting back flying, reducing car journeys and the consumption of things produced far from where we live. Walking, cycling and using public transport must increase. We should insulate our homes and other buildings thoroughly. We should install solar water heating and solar panels for electricity. Growing more of our own food will reduce the use of oil in transport. Trunk road building in Kent and Medway must cease. Instead, these resources should be allocated to improving walking and cycling routes and expanding public transport.

Fleet vehicles should be replaced by electric vehicles, with users ensuring they switch to suppliers whose electricity is from renewable sources.

We should support a massive expansion of wind farms in the North Sea. Combined with solar panels on all buildings, we could easily meet future energy needs without fossil fuels or nuclear energy. And in doing so we will protect the interests of our children and future generations.

• ***Steve Dawe is a spokesman for Kent Green Party***

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Straight from the heart

As a resident and British Heart Foundation (BHF) campaigner, I was stunned to read about the appalling lack of cardiac rehabilitation provision in the region.

According to a new report by the BHF, only 34 per cent of heart attack sufferers received cardiac rehabilitation across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Heart patients who do not take part in cardiac rehabilitation are at significantly higher risk of dying in the years after their diagnosis. Ten years ago the Government promised to tackle this problem together with local health authorities, but there still isn't a single programme in the country that meets minimum staffing requirements.

Cardiac rehab costs just £600 and can buy a heart patient extra years with their friends and families. I urge readers to visit bhf.org.uk/cardiacrehab and help ensure heart patients get the support they need.

Gloria Juma, Dartford

Prescriptions promise

It is a disgrace that Gordon Brown has not acted on his promise to abolish prescription charges for people with long-term conditions.

The recession has devastated people's finances and many are making difficult and potentially dangerous decisions not to purchase their medicines just so they can afford daily necessities, such as food and heating.

This situation seems particularly unfair when prescription charges have been abolished in Wales and are being phased out in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

After well over a year, nothing has happened. I, for one, have not forgotten the commitment Mr Brown made in September, 2008, and call on him to prove this was not just a politician's promise by scrapping prescription charges for people with long-term conditions as soon as possible.

I also urge other readers to show Mr Brown that we have not forgotten, by signing the petition at www.prescriptionpromise.org.

Wendy Smith, Ramsgate

Our county's fighting spirit

A seasonal message to readers from the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, the Queen's representative in the county:

As Her Majesty said in last year's Christmas broadcast: "When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future."

And over the past difficult year this has once again proved especially true of the people of Kent.

The global economic situation has affected everyone, but our frontline county has weathered many a storm in the past and at times of crisis the strength of our communities has always pulled us through.

That is why during the past year the Lieutenancy has concentrated on commending and celebrating those who work so hard for their communities, often without wider recognition. This is in line with our aim to provide a focus for county identity, unity and pride, give a sense of stability, recognise achievements, success and excellence, and promote service to others.

Kent's great army of volunteers add so much value to our lives. They are the backbone of our communities and I encourage others to step forward and play their part by serving with one or more of the county's great network of voluntary organisations. Such selfless service can be most fulfilling and enjoyable.

Throughout the year we have continued to call for the people of Kent to demonstrate greater support for our Armed Forces and their families, and the response has been magnificent.

Over the festive season men and women from Kent will still be serving on demanding operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere. Our prayers are with them – and especially with their families left behind in our care.

Our thoughts, too, are with the emergency services, those caring for others, and those who are ill or alone. My wife Anne and I wish all readers a happy Christmas and a peaceful and successful New Year.

Allan Willett, Lord Lieutenant of Kent

Creativity being stifled

The fact the Creative Foundation (CF) is charging too much for rents in Folkestone is evident by the number of companies that have arrived and left, sometimes within months. The fact that they get no real security of tenure is the main failing of the drive to recruit businesses and artists. As it is clear a failure of communication lay at the heart of the problem, perhaps it can be overcome – but how?

I suggest those who have failed to address this problem should be moved aside. The lack of communication between the CF and tenants has been a persistent problem, not one that has just arrived. If the communications people are unable to fulfil their role to bring in and maintain clients within the Creative Quarter, they, like any underperforming member of staff, should be removed.

As for the lack of tenure for artists, perhaps they should look to give greater security by giving artists better contracts as they do elsewhere (Brighton and Hastings, for example).

Without security of tenure, few if any artists will want to venture to Folkestone and establish themselves here. If greater security was more evident and transparent, then artists could create the community Mr De Haan seeks. I urge him to have the courage of his convictions and dismiss those responsible for this sorry saga.

Bryan Rylands, Folkestone

Cameron's out of tune

So Tory leader David Cameron's lead is down to eight points. Can anyone be surprised, seeing as the three main parties are singing from the same hymn sheet?

Mr Cameron may find his lead gets even shorter when Ukip get their act together for the general election. They are the only party offering people a say in the future of their own country.

The other three are treating the electorate like idiots who are not fit to have a say in what is, after all, a complete destruction of our democratic way of life.

Mr Cameron still has time to promise a referendum on Europe, but if he doesn't it would seem he is wasting not only his time but ours as well. Acting like a prime minister is just not good enough. If he isn't man enough to give us that referendum, he should move aside and let someone in who would.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Letters continued on page 30

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

CROSSKEYS COACHES



DAY TRIPS AND TOURS

January

Friday 8th	Westfield Shopping Centre	£14.00
Saturday 9th	Brighton Ice Show	£34.00
Sunday 17th	Brighton Ice Show	£34.00
Wednesday 20th	Maidstone & Newnham Court Shopping Village	£7.50
Saturday 23rd	Brighton Ice Show	£34.00

February

Monday 1st	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Thursday 4th	Ikea & Lakeside	£16.50
Saturday 6th	De Panne	£19.50
Monday 15th	Dickens World	£16.00
Thursday 18th	Boulogne & Nausicaa	£25.00
Saturday 20th	Disneyland, Paris	£67.50
Wednesday 24th	Brick Lane Music Hall	£37.50

March

Monday 1st	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Sunday 7th	London Eye & Thames Cruise	£37.50
Tuesday 9th	Westfield Shopping Centre	£17.00
Thursday 11th	Kensington Palace	£25.00
Saturday 13th	De Panne	£19.50
Friday 19th	The Stitch & Craft Show 2010 at Olympia	£22.00
Sunday 21st	Yesterdays World & Battle Abbey	£16.50
Wednesday 24th	Ideal Home Exhibition	£28.00
Thursay 25th	Boulogne	£24.00
Saturday 27th	Bruges	£32.00

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NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements In partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

BARNETT
Matthew and Kelly celebrate the birth of their twins Maisie and James on 23rd November 2009. Baby sister and brother to Christopher.

BURGESS-CLEMENTS
Luke born on 23rd November 2009, weighing 5lb 10oz. Son to Mark and Angela Burgess-Clements in Maidstone.

DAISY
Sean Daisy and Lisa Wren of Margate celebrate the birth of their daughter Florence Emily Deborah Daisy on 29th November 2009.

GOLDSMITH
Angela, Peter and Millie celebrate the birth of Olivia Jessica Dorothy on 27th November 2009, daughter and baby sister.

HOLLAMBY
Jack born on 24th November 2009, weighing 7lbs 10ozs. Son to Adam and Sarah Hollamby (nee Simmons) from Dover.

HUGHES
Harrison Henry born 26th November 2009, weighing 7lbs 14ozs. Little brother for Bethany and Callum.

JUDGE
Dominic and Jennifer of Shottenden proudly announce the birth of their second daughter, Chloe Olivia. Chloe was born on 30th November 2009 at 3.59am weighing 8lb 3oz. A new sister for Emily.

NEWMAN
Darren and Laura Newman celebrate the birth of their son Oscar Michael Eric Newman on 24th November 2009.

PAPAS
David and Debs would like to welcome Isabelle Tammie Papas into the world as of the 20th November 2009. All boys are banned until further notice! xx

PARISH
Kenneth and Deborah celebrate the birth of their son Nicholas David Parish on 17th November 2009.

RANGELEY-COOK
Hayley and Matthew of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Raymond Peter, born on 30th November 2009 at QEQM Hospital. Mummy and Daddys special little angel.

SESSIONS
Kelly and Anthony Sessions celebrate the birth of their son Luke William George Sessions on the 15th November 2009.

TUTT
Phil and Sara of Boughton under Blean are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Daisy May, on 11th November 2009. A new sister for Chelsea, Harry and Molly.

DEATHS

BRACKLEY
Maurice Brackley of Maidstone passed away on the 5th December 2009. Funeral to be held on 17th December, all enquiries to Pickard and Beale of Maidstone 01622 677155.

CHESHER-BRAZIER
Judy passed away peacefully on 4th December 2009 at Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Forever in our thoughts and loved dearly. Enquiries to Welch and Son of Herne Bay 01227 374995

JAMES
Carol Margaret James of Ramsgate passed away on 8th December after a long illness. Funeral to be held at Thanet Crematorium on 17th December at 12:00. Carol will live in the hearts of those left behind.

LURCOOK
Today you are dancing in the fields with your father. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever, watch over us. Love you lots + 1. Your loving wife Glendar, daughters Jacklyn and Marcella, Son in Laws Rick and Matt and grandchildren, Jayden-Isaac, Jarick, James and Charlie-Maddison.

RANDALL
Sidney Richard Randall of Hythe passed away on 25th November 2009. Enquiries to 0208 3119560. Theres an open gate at the end of the road through which each must go alone, and there, in a light we cannot see, you will remain close to me.

WALLINGTON
Enid Maud of Chatham passed away peacefully on the 29th November 2009 aged 72 years. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

WICKENDEN
Irene Joyce Wickenden passed away peacefully at her home in Faversham on 2nd December 2009. A much loved mum and grandmother who will be very sadly missed.The funeral to be arranged, please contact Hogben and Partis of Faversham on 01795 532319.

Letters continued from page 29

Saving children's lives

Every day, more than 25,000 children under the age of five die from preventable causes. Causes that could be treated in the UK by a trip to the doctor, a course of medicine or a simple pill. In fact, many wouldn't even occur in the first place. These child killers include malaria, diarrhoea, pneumonia, and Aids. All are treatable. All are preventable.

We know that children are being killed by these illnesses and we know what we need to do about it. So my question for all readers to consider is this: why aren't world leaders doing anything about it?

It's obvious that when our leaders choose to act they really can make a difference. For example, since 2001 there has been a 90 per cent cut in deaths from measles in Africa – this would not have been possible without the support of these leaders.

World Vision, a charity I support, is calling on the Government to lead the way and become a global champion for child health. It's campaign, Stop The Child Killers, is aiming to build support for these calls. I want to encourage readers who care about these issues to show their support and join the campaign, you can do so by going online to: www.worldvision.org.uk/stopthechildkillers.

Melanie Melone, Dover

A fair deal for drivers

The Tory deputy leader of Medway Council, Cllr Alan Jarrett, has been proclaiming his generosity in announcing three free parking days for Christmas shopping in Medway's car parks.

He has then gone on to criticise Labour for not supporting those proposals. He is absolutely right. Since the Tories took over the council, short-term charges in our high street car parks have doubled. Labour did not support the Tory budget proposal because it did not give a fair deal to motorists and looked to further undermine the patchy business outlook in our high streets caused by the global downturn and local traffic chaos caused by unending roadworks.

In contrast, Labour put forward an affordable alternative to introduce year-round, free short-term parking. This would have created a massive boost for our high street shops by putting them on a level playing field with the out-of-town superstores.

The loss of trade caused by the Tories rejecting this fair deal for motorists is being felt week in, week out by our high streets. Three free days is simply not good enough. These out-of-touch Tories have failed Medway's residents.

Cllr Glyn Griffiths, Labour deputy leader, Medway Council

A cruelty-free Yuletide

In this season of celebration, parties, laughter and merriment, Animal Aid is asking people to spare a thought for the millions of animals for whom Christmas is a time of fear, exploitation, suffering and death.

Turkeys are slaughtered for Christmas dinner, along with ducks, chickens, pigs, cows and lambs. Reindeer are taken from their natural habitat and paraded for the amusement of punters. Prettily packaged cosmetics and toiletries can make lovely gifts, but were probably tested on animals.

Puppies and kittens are given away as presents, but later may be neglected or dumped by when the novelty has worn off.

Rabbits and foxes have their fur stripped from them to be turned into clothing and accessories. But there is another way. Animal Aid has produced a fantastic guide to a compassionate, cruelty-free Christmas.

This colourful, informative booklet contains sections on food and drink, make-up, fashion, gifts and entertainment, showing just how easy it is for cooks, shoppers and revellers to take simple steps to avoid inflicting suffering on others this festive season. After all, it is the season of goodwill.

For a free copy of the Compassionate Christmas Guide, contact Animal Aid on 01732 364546 or visit www.animalaid.org.uk

Ashley Owen, Animal Aid, Tonbridge

Big Meg is watching

On November 23, Meg Hillier, the so-called ID minister, took part in a web chat organised by the Manchester Evening News.

Ms Hillier skirted around the 50 pieces of information that will be stored on the national ID database and claimed the data was "the same as currently for the passport, plus National Insurance number, plus up-to-date address, and fingerprints and picture".

The UK Identity and Passport Service – UKIPS – is setting up panels around the country to get the views of the public as they build the 'National Identity Service'.

This acronym should not be confused with Ukip, the UK Independence Party, which is against ID cards fingerprinting of innocent people and Big Brother control. They are looking for volunteers. Count me out.

Victor Webb, Ukip Parliamentary candidate for Tunbridge Wells

Real 'glorious twelfth'

This weekend marks an important day in the shooting calendar and one which always passes without recognition.

Saturday, December 12, is what most people would term the real 'glorious twelfth', for it is on this day shooting grouse purely for sport and entertainment officially finishes.

The grouse shooting season gets under way on August 12 every year with a flurry of media interest proclaiming the day to be glorious. In fact what is being celebrated is the mass slaughter of birds by paying guns, many of whom have had no training or experience of using a gun before in their life.

Not only this, but what is also being celebrated is the systematic slaughter of other species which are wiped out to protect the game birds being reared for shooting.

There is nothing glorious about this. So for once let's recognise the day when the shooting and killing stops for this is the real glorious twelfth.

Douglas Batchelor, chief executive, League Against Cruel Sports

EU must end suffering

The revision of the European animal experiments directive is reaching a critical point, with the EU Council meeting on Monday to discuss the proposals.

Animal experimentation is an issue which attracts a great deal of public concern. A recent survey in the UK, France, Germany, Sweden, Italy and the Czech Republic found very large majorities wishing to see bans on the use of primates, cats and dogs, as well as on research causing severe suffering or which is not for life-threatening human illnesses.

The public also wants to see extensive information about animal experiments, with only personal and confidential information withheld.

Unfortunately, politicians seem intent on ignoring the public. The latest proposals would allow the use of primates, cats and dogs – as well as other animals – for just about any purpose; allow suffering which is both severe and long-lasting, even for primates; allow individual animals to be repeatedly reused, including where they have already experienced severe suffering; severely limit the circumstances in which available non-animal alternatives have to be used; absolve governments of the responsibility of scrutinising proposals for safety-testing, no matter how trivial the product; allow needless duplication; and only require limited openness and after-the-event review of projects (to enable lessons to be learned for the future).

The EU is capable of much better. The current process is highly secretive and most MEPs have no idea what is being done in their names.

There is still time for the EU to bring itself back in line with public opinion and vote for modern, humane science and we urge it to do so.

Michelle Thew, chief executive, BUAV

Easing pain of arthritis

For most of us, Christmas is a time for getting together with the family, celebrating with friends, eating wonderful food and exchanging presents.

But for many of the UK's nine million people with arthritis, it can be a surprisingly lonely time. Some people who are severely affected by the condition may be housebound in icy weather, while others are isolated by their own pain and the depression it causes, even when surrounded by people.

Arthritis doesn't go away for Christmas, and just because someone doesn't complain or is not obviously in pain doesn't mean they are not suffering inside.

I'm proud to say Arthritis Care is opening its help lines for extra days during the holiday. This special Santa service means that people who are cut off by pain or loneliness can pick up the phone and get real support from someone who understands.

So, if you or someone in the family has arthritis, do keep Arthritis Care's free number – 0808 800 4050 – nearby. It could make a real difference in a moment of need. I wish all your readers a very happy Christmas.

Jane Asher, president, Arthritis Care

Register your interest

There are 4,000 children in care every year needing adoption. This may sound daunting but progress is being made in finding them families.

Last year, 268 children were matched with prospective adopters through the adoption register for England and Wales. We are also celebrating the 1,000th child matched through the register.

BAAF arranges Adoption Exchange Days which are a chance for approved adopters to come together with social workers from across the country who can talk to them in detail about the children waiting in their area. If you would like to find out if there is an event nearby, or if you are simply interested in finding out more about adoption, please visit www.bemyparent.org.uk.

Mo O'Reilly, director of child placement, British Association for Adoption & Fostering

Homophobic Christmas

We were very disappointed to visit CO2, Canterbury's first real gay bar, to find a 'To Let' notice on the building and only one other customer in the bar for the length of our stay.

Only the usual warm welcome and friendly conversation from Scott the barman made us stay for more than one drink.

At Pride in Canterbury we had great hopes for CO2, but we knew attracting custom would be far from easy. Yet sadly, as far as we are aware, little effort has been made to promote the bar. Its opening aroused much hostility from residents, but apart from publicity about this, we have seen nothing advertising CO2 in either the local or gay press.

We presumed a major effort would be made to attract customers for Christmas and the New Year, yet, there were minimal Christmas decorations in the bar and no posters advertising activities and entertainments over the festive season.

Tragically, it seems an important opportunity for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community to grow has been wasted. Because of fear and lack of self-esteem, there are many closeted lesbians and gay men in Canterbury and the council makes little effort to set them free. The council has ignored our requests to send a clear message that they believe it is all right for the LGBT community to be out and proud in the city and that it welcomes lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Until they do this, businesses and ventures that strive to serve and help build up the LGBT community will find it difficult to succeed. The city's many homophobes must think Christmas has already arrived.

Andrew Brettell, Pride in Canterbury

business review 2009



CELEBRATING KENT BUSINESS

MANY of the county's businesses will be looking forward to Christmas more than ever this year, hoping for good sales to tide them over into the New Year.

Everyone knows it's been a tough 2009 for businesses and customers, but the economic experts have been spotting the green shoots of recovery and there seems to be some light on the horizon for the next 12 months.

So while 2010 will still be tough, the very best businesses will survive and entrepreneurs will always see an opportunity in every situation.

Today we want to celebrate the businesses that have survived the downturn, and even gone on to thrive and develop big plans for the future.

What most will have in common is excellent customer service and unbeatable product knowledge. Now more than ever, the customer and his cash are king, and building loyalty to a business will be what keeps some firms afloat into 2011.

So this year's Business Review highlights the determination and sheer hard work of Kent's businesspeople to keep going whatever the economy throws at them.

Here at KOS Media we have seen current conditions as an opportunity and launched the Tunbridge Wells on Saturday and Tunbridge Wells on Sunday newspapers, alongside allied websites, to join our stable of weekend and midweek newspapers and online services.

We have been concentrating on developing all our newspapers and websites to better serve our readers and advertisers – and we are determined to make further improvements in 2010.

KOS Media has produced this special business supplement to share with you the stories of some of Kent's companies.

We wish all our advertisers and readers a happy New Year and a prosperous 2010.

KOS media

SEE INSIDE FOR THIS YEAR'S REVIEW OF LOCAL BUSINESSES

BUSINESS review 2009

Basepoint Folkestone

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON







WINNER: Folkestone Basepoint's centre manager Lorraine Grover was presented with an award for service by Paul Dungate, Partner, Brachers Solicitors at the KOS Media Business Challenge Awards at the Marriott hotel, Maidstone

Quality service is a real winner

BASEPOINT Folkestone opened in April, 2002, to provide business accommodation, and in the last seven years more than 220 businesses have been located at the centre.

Basepoint was set up to meet the need for high quality business accommodation for firms in the area on an easy-in, easy-out basis.

The company was established in 1995 to build and manage business centres, Folkestone was the seventh centre built.

It has gone onto build and manage 24 centres throughout England.

Basepoint is committed to providing businesses with a friendly, professional environment for their operations.

The Folkestone centre offers meeting rooms, a café, photocopying and faxing facilities, and is open 24/7 for the tenants.

The management suite is open from 8.30am-5.30pm Monday-Thursday, and closes at 5pm on Fridays.

Basepoint was bought by The ACT Foundation in October, 2005, which is a charity providing funding for 'people in need'.

Each centre is encouraged to support a local charity, and Basepoint Folkestone supports Martha Trust, by arranging joint events and match funding.

Last year's firewalk generated more than £3,500 in sponsorship, and this year's firewalk and glasswalk took place in October. Last month there was a ladies' fashion show lunch.

Basepoint Folkestone was a winner in the KOS Media Kent Business Challenge Awards, and a new Canterbury branch opened last month.

• Basepoint Folkestone, Shearway Business Park, Shearway Road, Folkestone, CT19 4RH. Phone: 01303 298298, email: folkestone@basepoint.co.uk, www.basepoint.co.uk.

Our bargain workshop offer....

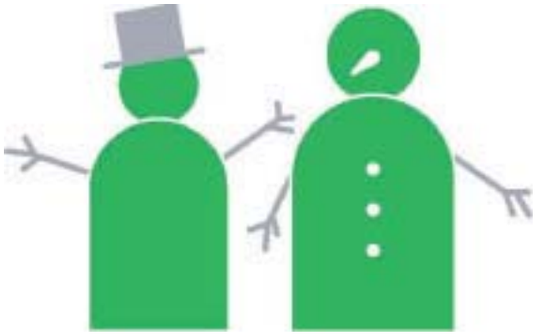
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Move your business to a Basepoint workshop before March 2010 and we will pay your rates for a year.

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BASEPOINT business centres



Hurry whilst space lasts
basepoint.co.uk 01303 298298

BUSINESS review 2009

Nasons

Store is celebrating 80 years of customer service

FAMILY-run department store Nasons is the perfect one-stop shop. Located in the heart of Canterbury, the store was established in 1929 by Fred Nason and it remains in the family today, with Andrew Nason as joint managing director.

In 1962 the company moved to its High Street position, where it has become a landmark in the city.

Its growing reputation for quality furniture and good customer services led it to outgrow the store and further space was needed, and bought, and it now boasts a 35,000 sq ft retail space.

In 1987 further expansion took place when the firm moved part of its product empire to a new store on the Wincheap estate on edge of Canterbury.

An extensive selection of carpets were introduced alongside the furniture. This freed up the High Street store for more product ranges and it stocks ranges from G Plan Upholstery, Ekornes, Lazyboy and Sherborne.

Bedroom furniture is also displayed at the High Street store, along with china, gifts, cookware, lighting, lingerie, linens, nets, soft furnishings, tiles, toys, and ladies and menswear.

The new 'home floor' has developed with the cookware department blending into the giftware department which has meant common merchandise such as kitchen, electrical, glass, tablemats and china can be matched with the traditional items.

In addition the linen department now offers aprons, tea towels and table cloths, which match the other ranges. Nasons is a member of Associated Independent Stores (AIS) the largest independent voluntary buying group of its kind in the UK with a combined membership of over £1.6bn.

Nick Betts, joint managing director, confirms that by being part of this association Nasons continues to be able to provide our customers with a wider range and fantastic money saving offers.









WINTER SALE

Starts Sunday 27th December

Opening Hours 11am - 5pm High Street and 10am - 4pm Wincheap

NASONS



Nasons Department Store,
47 High Street,
Canterbury, CT1 2SB
Tel: 01227 456755
www.nasons.co.uk



Nasons Furniture, Carpet and
Bed Centre, Maynard Road,
Wincheap Estate, Canterbury
Tel: 01227 463550
www.nasons.co.uk

BUSINESS review 2009

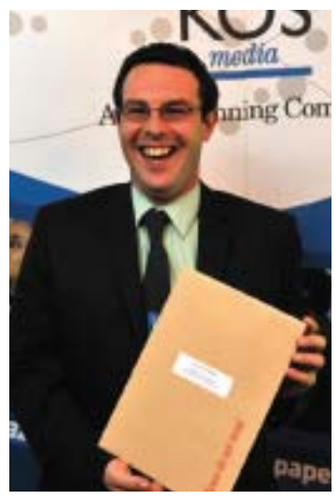
Herne Bay Mobility

Personal service is key to firm's success



ACCOLADE: Herne Bay Mobility owner David Aldridge, right, receives the company's Highly Commended award in the New Business section of the KOS Media Business Challenge Awards presentation at the Marriott Hotel in Maidstone

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON



WITHIN four months of opening, Herne Bay Mobility was forced to move to larger premises, and just 12 months later it had to add a 300 sq ft extension to the side of its shop to accommodate all the bathroom equipment and armchairs the company supplies.

After looking at the local mobility industry, owner David Aldridge felt there was room in the marketplace for a business offering better products at lower prices.

The theory being, if your service is top-notch and your products are cheaper, you will sell more. This has certainly been the case, with more than 2,000 customers served since the business first opened in April, 2008.

The company has a range of more than 20,000 products available, including mobility scooters, daily living aids, bathlifts and bathroom equipment, reclining armchairs, wheelchairs and powerchairs, walkers, gardening equipment, ramps and other items.

They also offer servicing, repairs and free home delivery/demonstrations.

The firm recently gained a consumer credit licence and can now offer 12 months' interest-free credit on all items. Additionally, Bay and Whit cardholders qualify for a 10 per cent discount on anything in store.

Herne Bay Mobility was delighted to be placed in the top four of the recent KOS Media £1 Million Business Challenge in its category – new business of the year.

The company aims to stay small. This means it doesn't have a top-heavy management structure, no MDs to claim huge wages, and the customers get to know the staff individually.

In the future, they hope to be able to expand the range of electric wheelchairs and will soon be installing a demonstration stairlift so customers can try before they buy.

The business has a loyal customer base, who go back repeatedly and tell their friends – word of mouth for any business is the best form of advertising.

Mr Aldridge believes the firm has stayed successful because every customer is treated with respect and in confidence. There is no hard sell and customers are offered a range of products to suit all needs

• Herne Bay Mobility, 9am-5pm Monday-Saturday. Unit 3.1, Wealden Forest Park, Herne Common, Herne Bay CT6 7LQ. Phone: 01227 710055; fax: 01227 713147; email: hernebaymobility@mac.com; website: www.hernebaymobility.co.uk.



BUSINESS review 2009

London Beach Country Hotel and Spa, Tenterden







Hotel offers room to chill out in style

THE London Beach Country Hotel, Spa and Golf Club has developed over the years from first being designed as a golf course in 1996. The parkland golf course was completed in 1998. A couple of years later, the luxurious and prestigious hotel opened in 2000. The Health Club and Spa followed in April, 2009.

The complex can be used for weddings, christenings, wakes, functions, charity events, conferences, golf society days, golf breaks, spa days and spa breaks.

The Spa offers beauty treatments and therapies using Clarins, ESPA, Bare Minerals, Sparitual, Jessica and Universal Contour Wrap.

The gym features Technogym exercise equipment, the latest in sports technology. The stars of the gym are the Kinesis System and Power Plate equipment. There are a number of different memberships available, including golf, social, health club and spa. Golf, Health Club and Spa membership benefits include discounts on self-catering holidays in France and Spain, hotel food and beverages, hotel accommodation and beauty treatments.

Research and attention to detail have been key to the hotel's success, along with listening to customer feedback, competitive prices, constant development and innovation.

The hotel is located in a peaceful and tranquil setting and offers stunning views over the beautiful Weald of Kent. London Beach is constantly seeking to improve and further refurbishment is planned for the hotel and bedrooms. The Bar and Restaurant have recently introduced a selection of wines from local vineyard, Chapel Down, and they use Kentish produce wherever possible.

The hotel has teamed up with a hot-air balloon company offering champagne flights and spa breaks.

London Beach is supporting a number of community and charitable projects, including Tenterden Day Centre for the Elderly, Pilgrims Hospice and Kent Air Ambulance. More than £25,000 has been raised for local charities at functions and Sunday lunches held at the hotel from March to September. The hotel is introducing a Christmas Charitable Lunch promotion, which will run from December 1-24 and will require prebooking with a minimum of six guests. The equivalent amount of the food bill will be donated to the charity of choice, to be stipulated at the time of booking.

• London Beach Country Hotel and Spa, Ashford Road, Tenterden TN30 6HX; phone: Hotel 01580 766279, Spa 01580 767611, Beauty 01580 767610; email: enquiries@londonbeach.com; website: www.londonbeach.com.



BUSINESS review 2009

EmbroidMe

Pulling the important threads together makes a top firm



SEWN UP: Keith Edwards runs the successful embroidery and printing business covering the whole of the South East

EMBROIDME opened in July when Keith Edwards bought the franchise after being made redundant in January following 30 years in senior management in the transport industry.

He had always thought branded clothing was important, as it makes you look part of a team, smarter and portrays a more professional image.

EmbroidMe stocks all kinds of clothing and textiles. If it can be embroidered or printed on then they stock it. It also offers a full service of design and logos, and promotional products such as mugs, mouse mats, coasters, place mats, canvas frames, jigsaw puzzles, and keyrings, etc.

The store can also provide a delivery service, samples, free design service, and a sew out service showing the customer the finished product before they purchase.

EmbroidMe is the largest full-service embroided and printed clothing company in the world, with 500 outlets in 16 different countries.

Mr Edwards owns the only franchise in the south of England, and his 'patch' extends all the way to Northampton. His bestsellers are polos and fleeces.

He has lots of support from his wife, who along with his daughter, sometimes work in the shop.

Mr Edwards says his success has been built on superior product, excellent personal service, and delivering customer requirements within the personal budget.

Since opening in July the businesses has been focusing on Thanet, but is now looking for contracts throughout the whole county.

EmbroidMe brands many diverse products and have even embroidered personalised messages onto horseblankets, dog leads, pillows, shirt collars and cuffs and many more.

EmbroidMe is not only a brilliant product for work and sports teams, but also for personalising a gift to yourself or someone else.

There really isn't much they can't do. Call or pop into showroom for more information.

Open Monday-Friday, 9am-5.30pm, and Saturday 9am-1pm.

• **EmbroidMe, 220 Northdown Road, Margate CT9 2QD. Phone: 01843 261084.**



THE WORLD'S LARGEST RETAIL EMBROIDERY CHAIN

EmbroidMe

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM TODAY

EMBROIDME PROVIDES BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS OF ALL SIZES WITH PERSONALISED APPAREL AND PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS. STAFFED BY A FRIENDLY TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS WE ARE EQUIPPED TO SERVICE ORDERS FROM ONE PIECE TO THOUSANDS.

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Custom EMBROIDERED and PRINTED APPAREL
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Unit 2 Westmount House 220-228 Northdown Road Cliftonville MARGATE Kent CT9 2QD
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BUSINESS review 2009

Canterbury Mazda and Hyundai







Business keeps it in the family

JOHN Parker and Son is a well-established supplier of steel to the construction industry and has been in business for more than 100 years.

The firm is also one of the oldest family-run and owned businesses in Canterbury.

It launched Canterbury Mazda in 1989 to offer the fabulous Mazda range, while also maintaining the highest levels of customer service synonymous with the John Parker and Son name.

Following the success of Canterbury Mazda, the business recognised that the up-and-coming Hyundai range offered a highly competitive choice that fitted well with the Mazda range, and Hyundai was launched in 1996.

Together they offer a fantastic choice of models and prices to suit everyone and every pocket.

As Mazda and Hyundai main dealers, the company offers an extensive selection of quality used vehicles, servicing, MOTs and parts. As part of the service to customers, it also offers courtesy cars.

The Government's Scrappage Scheme has proven exceptionally successful for both Canterbury Hyundai and Canterbury Mazda.

Mazda2 is the most popular model in the range and the firm has been inundated with scrappage orders for both the Mazda2 and the iconic Hyundai i10 – as the scheme has been extended it is still receiving numerous enquiries.

The MX5 is still in huge demand and continues to be the top-selling convertible in the UK.

This month sees the launch of the Mazda CX7 – a brand-new 4x4.

The Frankfurt 2009 Motor Show saw the world premier of the Hyundai ix35 SUV, which has had fantastic reviews from the motoring press, and is due in the showroom in May, 2010.

The ix35 will no doubt be a star in the 4x4 market segment.

• Canterbury Hyundai, Vauxhaull Road, Canterbury. Telephone: 01227 783300.

The servicing department is open from 8am-6pm Monday to Friday and 8.30am-12.30pm on Saturday.

Sales is open from 8.30am-6pm Monday to Friday, 8.30am-5.30pm on Saturday, and 10am-4pm on Sunday.

FOR YOUR NEAREST
MAIN HYUNDAI & MAZDA DEALER

It's comforting to know that people who repair and maintain your car were trained by the people that built it. Whether it's a new or used Mazda or Hyundai, we can help you to keep your car running smoothly - economically and efficiently.

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- **FREE** MOT with every major service
- Air Conditioning **£99** including Regas Deodorizer
- **FREE** prebookable courtesy Cars
- **All above offers now available for all makes + all models**

Leave us your car and we'll drop you in Canterbury City Centre to shop till you drop



Tel: 01227 783400

Canterbury Mazda + Hyundai, Vauxhall Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1HD
www.canterburyhyundai.co.uk

BUSINESS review 2009

Thanet Leisureforce

The force that's bringing leisure activites to Kent

THANET Leisureforce celebrated its 10th Anniversary in October. It was formed to operate the hospitality and leisure services provided to the local community in partnership with Thanet District Council.

The company has expanded its operations to include Seagulls Childcare Nursery, The Maison Dieu in Dover and opened the fabulous Ramsgate Sports Centre in 2000.

Hartsdown Leisure Centre in Margate received an initial facelift eight years ago and is now to undergoing a £1.6 million refurbishment to include a state-of-the-art fitness suite, children's soft play area, new café area, and sport hall upgrade, as well as new changing rooms and toilet facilities.

The work of Thanet Leisureforce has been recognised nationally with the accreditation of the company as an Investor in People, and both Hartsdown Leisure Centre and Ramsgate Sports Centre have received the QUEST quality award with both centres being given the status of 'highly commended'.

The company has also been recognised by the Fitness Industry Association and has won consecutively a national award for innovations and campaigns aimed at getting members of the public more active.

The company has more recently been able to offer free swimming to the under 16s and over 60s through its commitment to the health of the local community. This has proved popular and resulted in a 35 per cent increase in swimming across both pools.

It continues to work closely with Thanet District Council, the East Kent PCT, local schools and other agencies to increase the participation in sport and physical activity by the local community and improve the health and wellbeing of the area.

The company looks forward to future success with the launch of the Centenary Appeal to improve The Winter Gardens before its 100-year celebrations in August, 2011.

Managing Director Steve Davis said: "The company has gone through a lot of changes over the last couple of years in order to reduce the cost of providing the services we operate for Thanet District Council while also remaining a viable company.

"This could not have been achieved without the support and commitment of our loyal workforce who work hard throughout the year to deliver the many services we provide to the local people throughout East Kent.

"I am confident that the next few years will see a significant improvement in both the services and facilities we operate as our investment strategy comes to fruition."

• **See www.leisureforce.co.uk.**







Thanet Leisureforce Ltd presents

New Years Eve Dance

MARGATE WINTER GARDENS
Thursday 31st December at 8.00pm

FAMILY

Tickets Adults £19.50, Child £12.00 (including basket meal) Under 4's £6.00, Under 12 Months FREE

Family Entertainment; Band – Pulse Party Band; Disco – Marc 1 Sound & Light Disco; Entertainers – Southern Sorcerers Children's Magic Show

ADULT ONLY

Adults £17.00 including basket meal (£15.00 without)

Adult Entertainment; Band – Deuce; Disco – Marc 1 Sound & Light Disco; Entertainers – Table Magic (Southern Sorcerers)

BUSINESS review 2009

The Bell Hotel

A full makeover rang in changes for The Bell Hotel

WE bought The Bell Hotel in January, 2005. The hotel had been neglected for a number of years and was sadly in need of comprehensive restoration and redecoration.

There has always been a high service ethos amongst the staff and our objective has been to create a setting in which great hospitality combines with high levels of product quality to deliver a prosperous business and a great working environment.

Nearly five years on we now have a hotel with a reputation for stylish accommodation, a restaurant 'The Old Dining Room' renowned for a menu centred on fresh, local and seasonal produce and a building redecorated and restored befitting its listed status.

We have visitors for all round the globe and reviews in media, our presence in the Michélin Guide and the Good Hotel Guide and the fact that the business has substantially grown over this period are testament to the success we have enjoyed.

"You only need to cross over the bridge or railway crossing to see the reason why we took on The Bell – Sandwich is simply a stunning place to live or visit. It is steeped in history, beautiful in every way and set within a community who care about the town.

"Sandwich is the undiscovered hidden gem of Kent. The first of the Cinque Ports and reputed to be the most complete medieval town in England, it must rank as one of the most attractive destinations within two hours of London. Ally this to its location as a world class golf destination and the presence of Pfizer, the world's largest pharmaceutical business with its European Research and Development headquarters, and Sandwich truly is the ideal location for the visitor on leisure or business."

Work will soon be starting on adding a further three river-facing bedrooms in January, one of which will be fully accessible for guests in wheelchairs. Along with this the Club Room will be refurbished into a private bar and lounge for residents to relax in comfort. Once this is completed bedrooms that were refurbished in 2005 will be updated. The Bell also has a bar with sun terrace, and two conference rooms.

• The Bell Hotel, The Quay, Sandwich CT13 9EF. Phone: 01304 613388, fax: 01304 615308, www.bellhotel sandwich.co.uk.

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON



COMMENDED: Matt Collins (right) manager of The Bell Hotel was presented with a Highly Commended award for Leisure and Tourism by Peter d'Aguilar of Bedgebury National Pinetum and Forest at the KOS Media £1 Million Business Challenge Awards

The Bell Hotel Sandwich.
Stay in the heart of Kent's best-kept secret.



The Cinque Port of Sandwich, known as the jewel of the Kent coast, is reputed to be the most complete medieval town in England.

At its heart, can be found The Bell, a quintessentially English hotel, with a chic, modern twist. Recently refurbished and sensitively restored, the Bell Hotel has thirty-seven individually designed en-suite bedrooms and the original Club and Regency rooms, ideal for functions. In the hotel's 'Old Dining Room' restaurant with bar and outside terrace, modern British cooking with an emphasis on fresh, seasonal and local produce is the hallmark of the menus.

Whether it's for leisure or business, a wedding or private event, make The Bell Hotel your own secret hideaway.

the bell hotel sandwich

The Quay, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9EF Tel: 01304 613388 Fax: 01304 615308
reservations@bellhotelsandwich.co.uk www.bellhotelsandwich.co.uk

BUSINESS review 2009

Furniture World of Hythe

Product knowledge and customer care a given

FURNITURE WORLD is a family-owned business which started in 1910, and moved to Hythe in 1995.

The owners, Castons, have been furniture retailers for the past 70 years, originating in London and with an additional store in Crawley.

They sell furniture from suppliers such as Silentnight, Sherborne, Alstons, Cintique, Harrison, Health Beds and Vale plus many others offering a wide range of upholstery, beds and bedroom/dining ranges.

There is free delivery for all items, and they believe in traditional customer care, service and value for money.

Mike Nock, who has been in furniture retail for more than 25 years, knows his stuff, and it shows.

Mike puts his success down to experience, vast product knowledge and good old-fashioned service.

Mike explained that many customers visit the store time and time again.

The extensive customer base covers areas up to and including Tenterden, Canterbury and Dover with free delivery for those within a 50-mile radius.

The van delivery crew offer a friendly and professional service, carrying in and setting up items as well as disposing of any packaging materials and old goods.

The large ground and first-floor showroom has more than 30 suites on display and includes a large bed section. Catering for all budgets, beds are priced from £90-1,000, while sofas are priced between £700-5,000.

"We aim to build on our reputation and quality of service for the coming year, by continuing to supply all customers old and new with quality value for money furniture and enviable customer service and care," says Mike. For more information call 01303 239239.









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Furniture World
64/68 High Street, Hythe.
01303 239239

ALDI CAR PARK
Bank Street
We Are Here
Hythe High St

BUSINESS review 2009

Countrystyle Group

Picture: STEVE TOWNSEND







Countrystyle: it's easy being green

SINCE its formation in 1996, Countrystyle has rapidly expanded to become one of the South East's leading privately owned waste management and recycling companies.

Committed to reducing the volume of waste going to landfill by offering sustainable cost-effective solutions to waste management, the Kent-based specialists use innovative technology to collect, segregate and recycle waste into reusable materials or carbon efficient energy.

Countrystyle Group consists of several integrated companies with vast expertise, working in complete harmony to provide a comprehensive range of services. From providing one-off domestic skips to dealing with complete waste streams from large multinational companies, the capabilities of the group are constantly expanding.

2009 has seen many developments taking place within the company. A recently opened new head office in Lenham, near Maidstone, and with a newly acquired waste transfer station based in Folkestone, the company now has a total of five facilities across Kent and East Anglia.

Countrystyle is able to process large volumes of organic food and green waste into a nutrient-rich soil improver via two specialist in-vessel composting facilities, one in Sittingbourne and the other in Suffolk. The compost produced is then applied back to land to encourage crop growth and complete the virtuous food circle.

In addition to an existing facility in Strood, Countrystyle has now been able to expand its reach across the whole of Kent, offering a more comprehensive service to small and large businesses through the recent acquisition of its new facility in Folkestone.

Nearly all waste materials can be handled by the company and it has an extensive capability, backed by expert operatives and a dedicated fleet of high specification specialist vehicles.

Countrystyle is constantly searching for new innovative ways to recycle and reuse waste to ensure that as much as possible is diverted away from landfill.

Many companies in Kent have benefited from the services provided by Countrystyle including Fremlin Walk, a prestigious shopping centre in Maidstone which is currently achieving an astonishing rate of diversion of waste away from landfill.

The project has proved highly successful, earning Fremlin Walk a prestigious Green Apple award for environmental excellence.

Whatever your query, no job is too small or too large for Countrystyle.

• Countrystyle Group, Ashford Road, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2DL. Phone: 0844 880 7700, www.countrystylegroup.co.uk.



BUSINESS review 2009

SCG







Paving the way to good quality

WHEN choosing a builder, it makes sense to work with an established firm. SCG has more than 35 years of experience as a commercial building contractor, establishing a reputation for delivering high-quality workmanship to time and budget.

SCG are construction and property developing specialists, who don't just talk about good quality – they build it! That's why the company gives a 15-year guarantee on all its work.

The firm's customer care is an integral part of its approach. Your building project is effectively managed from start to finish, with disruption kept to a minimum. And SCG won't leave until you are fully satisfied.

The best news? This is inspiration-level service that doesn't cost you a penny more.

The success of the projects is built on more than bricks and mortar. SCG's team of highly skilled and widely experienced tradespeople possess exacting levels of workmanship and commitment to quality. The firm's methods may be modern, but its dedication to craftsmanship and pride in its work is refreshingly old-fashioned.

But don't just focus on the skills and experience of the team, they're also approved builders and only use top-grade materials.

SCG's approach has created inspiration for Kent homeowners and built longstanding relationships with Kent County Council, Kent schools and other large private organisations in Kent and the South East.

For commercial and residential building works, or when you're looking for more space or new space, home or garden improvements, renovations or new builds, SCG is the right choice.

Home and garden improvements offered include driveways, patios and landscaping. Small works include property maintenance, electrics, plumbing and decorating. Groundworks include foundations and drainage. Construction covers home/commercial, conversions and restorations. Commercial work covers offices, warehouses and parking areas.

The project and build teams can handle everything you need – from gaining planning consent, through design to the complete build.

Everything is project-managed to run smoothly.

• To request a free SCG brochure or to book an appointment, phone: Canterbury office on 01227 712514 or Ashford office on 01233 811836.



BUSINESS review 2009

Robins and Day

Peugeot group customer care to make your day

ROBINS and Day is the largest Peugeot Group in the UK, with 37 branches nationwide and three in Kent – all in central locations in Canterbury, Rochester and Maidstone.

As main Peugeot dealers, they have new cars and an extensive range of used cars on display in each of the sites.

They also offer genuine Peugeot parts, MOTs for all makes and models, servicing, seasonal checks, tyre changing and rebalancing, and body repairs. As part of the service they provide courtesy cars, collection and delivery, prebook while-u-wait appointments, fully factory- trained Peugeot technicians and customer service advisors who are committed to achieving the highest levels of customer service.

Bestsellers include MOTs at £39.99 and a service including MOT at £129.99.

The majority of customers are fifth or sixth generation Peugeot owners, which is a testimony to the quality of our vehicles and our continuing customer focus.

There are now two levels of service on offer:

• Value – service designed for vehicles four years and older and where the cost of maintenance is usually higher. Customers can choose value to receive the most competitive prices.

• Premium – service offered using original manufacturers' parts and returned washed and vacuumed.

A better way to budget for car servicing is the Robins and Day Service Plan starting at only £9.99 per month. Just choose the plan you want and it will be tailored to suit you and you can spread the cost of servicing by paying through monthly instalments – just like you'd pay for gas, electricity or a TV licence.

You will be given a quote based on the number of years you want the Service Plan to cover your service schedule and average mileage. You can take out a Robins and Day Service plan at any time during the ownership of your car and if you decide to sell it before the plan ends you can transfer it to your new vehicle for a small charge.

By the way, there's no chance of your servicing costs rising, as they're frozen from the time you take out the Service Plan.

The whole cost of standard servicing is covered by the plan, including parts and labour with the exception of normal wear and tear parts such as tyres, brakes pads and windscreen wipers. And of course with our Robins and Day Service Plan you can relax knowing that your car will be maintained and serviced by expert Peugeot-trained technicians.

The service departments open from 7.30am-6pm Monday-Friday and 8am-1pm on Saturday.

• Robins and Day, Mill Street, Maidstone. Phone: 01622 753333, www.robinsanddaymaidstone.co.uk; The Pavilion, Canterbury. Phone: 01227 451791, www.robinsanddaycanterbury.co.uk; Rochester High Street. Phone: 01634 842231, www.robinsanddayrochester.co.uk.



BIG DEALS! FROM PEUGEOT'S BIGGEST UK DEALER GROUP

Robins & Day

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ASK US ABOUT OUR SERVICE PLANS
A better way to budget for car servicing

SERVICE & MOT from £119.99
* on production of this advertisement

Robins & Day

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01622 753333
www.robinsanddaymaidstone.co.uk

CANTERBURY
The Pavilion, Canterbury
01227 451791
www.robinsanddaycanterbury.co.uk

ROCHESTER
209 High Street, Rochester
01634 842231
www.robinsanddayrochester.co.uk

BUSINESS review 2009

True Grip Off Road







Go off-road with the professionals

THE business was founded in 1994 as the Canterbury Off Road Driving Centre, providing off-road driving demonstrations and tuition to owners and potential owners of 4x4 vehicles.

Back in the early 1990s the idea of off-road driver training was just beginning to gain momentum, with only perhaps one or two businesses providing such services in the UK.

The hobby began to take more and more of Mr Leppard's time, interspersed with periods working for a major 4x4 manufacturer demonstrating its products, to the extent that it became a business in its own right.

The company was incorporated in 2002 as True Grip Driver Training Limited, and rebranded True Grip Off Road in 2006 as part of a restructuring and capital investment programme, giving the business a platform for further sustained growth. They offer professional off-road driver training for those required to use an all-wheel-drive vehicle off road as part of their occupation or profession.

Certificated courses are available which meet your obligations for training under health and safety legislation

They also offer off-road experience courses for both those who own a 4x4 vehicle and those who would just like to try off-road driving and learn new and different driving skills.

Vehicle recovery, winching and trailer handling courses are available. Bespoke courses can be provided to meet your requirements.

They also offer quad biking experiences and quad bike training at a site near Dover.

There is also off-road karting, which is suitable for adults and children and makes a great children's party activity when combined with rifle shooting, a 4x4 thrill ride and a party tea.

The 4x4 off-road driving experience courses are 1:1, that's you, the instructor and the vehicle. You're not charged any extra if you want to bring a friend and have them ride as a passenger or share the driving with you.

There's no sharing the vehicle or driving time with strangers. Gift vouchers are available for all the 4x4 off-road driving experience courses. The great thing about off-road driving is that, by and large, it is not weather dependant so we are able to operate throughout the year, both weekdays and weekends. Prior to any course we carry out a risk assessment taking into account the skill level of the driver, the type of vehicle to be used, the ground conditions and the prevailing weather conditions. Occasionally, we may decide that a particular vehicle type (taking into account, tyres, vehicle weight, etc, is unsuitable for use due to ground conditions, and so a different vehicle is substituted.

Off-road driving courses run throughout the day from 9am-5pm. Pre-booking is essential. For the off-road karting activities they operate pre-booked arrive-and-drive sessions on Sundays between 10am-1pm and private karting sessions and parties seven days per week by prior arrangement.

The two-hour introductory off-road driving experience course is always a good seller, priced at just £99 it is a great introduction to off-road driving whether you own a 4x4, are thinking of buying a 4x4 or want to find out just what off-road driving is all about. It's a 1:1 course which can be shared with a friend for no extra charge.

True Grip Off Road has won a major contract from a Government organisation for off-road driver training of both military and civilian personnel. The initial contract was awarded in 2002, and was successfully re-bid and won again in 2008.

They have also provided training for Kent International Airport, the RSPB, and various motoring journalists.

• True Grip Off Road, PO Box 1294, Bedford MK40 9AZ. Phone: 0800 234 6558.Fax: 0800 471 5002. Email: enquiries@truegrip-offroad.co.uk. www.truegripoffroad.co.uk. www.wildtrackskent.co.uk. The off-road driver training site is in Maypole, near Hoath, Kent, and our off-road karting circuit is located at Sturry, Near Canterbury.



BUSINESS review 2009

The Coastguard

All fresh and local produce right by the sea



THE COASTGUARD was opened in 2001 serving fresh, local produce – something that was then not really commonly available.

Owner Nigel Wydymus explained: "When we first arrived we were fitted into the gastropub box – which we hate, it sounds like a disease. So I reckon we are more of a 'restropub' – we are a pub proud of our food and drink.

"If it was not for the restaurant side of the business then as a pub we would not survive, especially after all the changes in legislation over the last few years."

Over the last eight years they have had to make many changes both to the building and staffing.

The building has many of its facilities back to front which adds many additional problems to how they have to run things.

"But with a good core team we hopefully make things work without these being too obvious." said Nigel.

Along with his wife Sam, Nigel had been looking for a small café/bistro location on or near water, and came across the Coastguard.

With a background in production and project management, they decided to make a career change. They wanted a less transient lifestyle, and this combined with Sam's passion of food and cooking, making a bistro café sounded a good idea

Initially they began as a traditional pub offering drink and food, then branched into external catering for corporate clients across Kent, then weddings and special occasions, and then onto catering for boats and cruisers.

They firmly believe the norm should be fresh, local produce for both drink as well as food, and all our food is prepared daily in our own kitchens and cooked to order.

Their bestsellers include Gadds of Ramsgate Kentish Beer, Brouges Zot, fresh fish caught from dayboats, crab and fish pie.

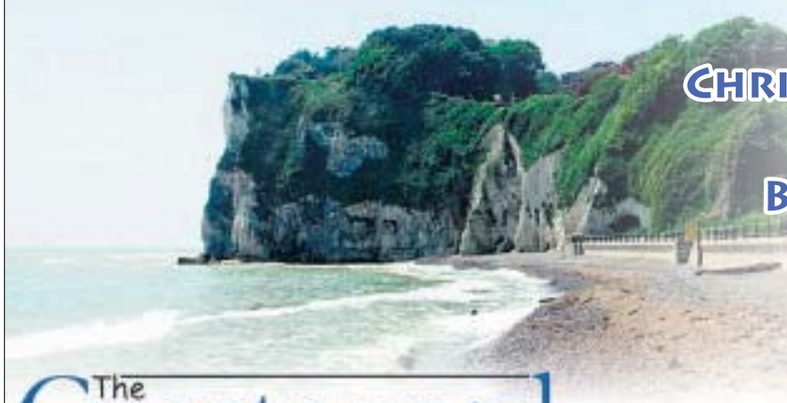
"Our success has been based on listening to customer feedback, developing staff, a great core team who are dedicated and understand the problems of working in a small building," added Nigel.

The Coastguard is open every day 11am-11pm for drinks, food between 12.30-2.45pm and 6.30-8.45pm. On Christmas Day they are open between noon-3pm for drinks only.

• The Coastguard, St Margaret's Bay, Dover, Kent CT15 6DY. Phone: 01304 853176.



BETWEEN THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA



CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS STILL BEING TAKEN
CALL FOR MORE DETAILS.

BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR VALENTINES DAY

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WWW.THECOASTGUARD.CO.UK

The Coastguard
Pub Restaurant
www.thecoastguard.co.uk

St Margarets Bay
Dover CT15 6DY

01304 853176

PRODUCED IN KENT

BUSINESS review 2009

Sullivan & Son Independent Funeral Service

Everything you require in your time of need

AFTER working for other firms in the profession for 15 years, Paul Sullivan opened Sullivan & Son Independent Funeral Service on March 31, 2007.

Following excellent customer service, eco-friendly options and best value pricing structure, the company saw a 200 per cent increase in funerals against its year-one start and will increase market share again before the end of its third year.

Funeral director and proprietor Paul Sullivan says it was always his goal to own and run his own funeral service but location and money were the biggest problems.

"After a friend of the family offered to help with the financial side we decided to look for a suitable property with accommodation and chose Dover for several reasons," he said.

"Property prices were good, it made sense to stay in the area where I was known, and we believed there was the room and need for another independent funeral service."

Although open just over two years, Mr Sullivan has been in the trade for 17 years, starting with a large chain of funeral directors in Kent when he was 19.

"I am proud to say I am also a qualified and licensed independent funeral director and in a largely unregulated trade there aren't many others in Kent who can say the same," he said.

They offer a comprehensive funeral service including traditional, eco, alternative, and low-cost funerals and can also deal with cremations, burials, repatriations, exhumations, burials at sea, and interment of cremated remains.

Also available are Golden Leaves Pre-Paid Funeral Plans, free quotations, home calls, full disabled access at 12 Beaconsfield Road, Dover, and a serene chapel of rest.

There is a large selection of coffins, caskets and urns, and they are the exclusive local provider of the eco-friendly 'Coffin Cover'.

They can also offer a comprehensive choice of funeral transportation including a traditional motor hearse and limousines, horse-drawn carriages, and motorcycle hearse sidecars.

A highly bespoke and flexible service, they can provide a one-stop, complete funeral service including all possible ancillary services and requests.

As a family concern they offer 24-hour personal help 365 days a year. While the chapel is in Dover, they cover all of the south east Kent area, offering free home visits and professional assistance for all funeral instructions.

"Best value prices have been backed up by a high quality service and I am proud of the many letters, cards and testimonials I have received," said Mr Sullivan.

He added: "You should remember that just because a funeral director has a family sounding name it does not always mean that it is family run.

"I urge you to give me a call and compare my charges against your local funeral director.

"I guarantee I can save you hundreds if not thousands of pounds and provide a highly professional yet personal service at your hour of need."

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm excluding bank holidays. There is also a 24-hour phone and emergency call service.

• Sullivan & Son Independent Funeral Service, 12 Beaconsfield Road, Dover, Kent CT16 2LL.
Phone: 01304 201322. www.sullivanandson.co.uk. paul@sullivanandson.co.uk.









SULLIVAN & SON
INDEPENDENT FUNERAL SERVICE



Paul Sullivan, LMBIFD, Proprietor
24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE-ALL AREAS
01304 201322
12 BEACONSFIELD ROAD, DOVER CT16 2LL
www.sullivanandson.co.uk



BUSINESS review 2009

Theatre Royal Margate

Bringing theatre into the heart of town



The traditional interior of Theatre Royal Margate belies its innovative approach to community theatre. Right, Artistic Director Will Wollen



THE Theatre Royal Margate was built in 1787 on one of Margate's most fashionable squares. It is the second oldest working theatre in the England.

The theatre aims to make sure that as many people as possible have access to good quality, accessible performing arts.

Throughout 2010 it will continue the exciting and new Made in Margate project that will put creativity at the heart of our work.

Both the theatre and the town of Margate have seen their fortunes fluctuate. Margate was once the most fashionable holiday destination in the south of England, with numerous theatres, music halls and palaces of entertainment. The bulk of the town's other theatres and attractions have been lost, but Margate is changing and Theatre Royal Margate is positioning itself right at the heart of that change

Theatre Royal Margate has started a remarkable journey and its future is now looking more exciting than ever, with a new local authority owner, a renewed and re-invigorated governing trust, and a new and ambitious management team led by Artistic Director Will Wollen. Over the last two years the theatre has changed from being a tired seaside venue into a progressive and ambitious arts organisation.

The Theatre Royal does more than just show great performances, we offer fantastic opportunities to get involved in a long-standing community resource. Young people can get involved in youth theatre groups learning about performing arts, socialising with other young people while learning great skills. There are plans to feature storytelling for early years, as well as more quality theatre, activities and events for families. Made in Margate will also give strong support to local theatre companies and help develop new writers on the Thanet doorstep.

We work closely with schools and Sure Start, giving workshops, backstage tours and performances. There are also backstage tours, pre- and post-performance talks, as well as free tickets for people under 26. There are further discounts for social and community groups and The Friends of Theatre Royal Margate (and students) enjoy discounts, special events and trips through the year.

In January 2010 Smoke and Mirrors, our community theatre-making project continues. The theatre really does cater for everyone showcasing the traditional, established theatre as well as the 'cutting edge' and latest offerings from national touring companies.

Theatre Royal Margate is creating many paths into its creative work and its beautiful building as well as making sure the theatre moves out among the people of Thanet exploring the magic that happens when theatre and communities come together.



Christmas Magic for all the Family

10th-27th December

by Kate Edgar & Colin Wakefield

"Splendid... fresh and imaginative!"
- The Stage

HORNBY

Theatre Royal MARGATE
Addington Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1PW

Box Office: 0845 130 1786 / 01227 787787

www.theatreroyalmargate.com

Matinées and evening performances

BUSINESS review 2009

1st Choice Care Homes







Your first choice for quality care

1ST Choice Care Homes was founded in 2001 and the directors come from a family of eight, all of whom work in the service industry.

Among the family they own 40 care homes in Kent and Essex. The directors are successful businessmen who also own Leaf Hotels, so they have a wealth of experience and knowledge of the hotel and care industries.

They aim to provide hotel standards in their care homes while ensuring each home provides a 'home from home' environment and care.

The company is family orientated, and offers personalised care which promotes independence to its residents at all times.

The company offers value for money, and all 1st Choice Residential Homes have been rated as 'good' by CQC. All of the homes have improved in their ratings since being purchased by 1st Choice and are preferred Kent County Council providers.

The company has purchased eight homes in six years, including Tudor Lodge in Folkestone, Whitfield Residential Home in Dover, and Hatfield Lodge Residential Home in Folkestone.

It has six residential and two nursing homes, providing almost 270 beds.

The homes are mainly on the coast in Dover, Folkestone, Littlestone on Sea/New Romney and Tenterden in the Weald of Kent, as well as one in Essex.

By the end of December, 2009, we anticipate that all of the residential homes will be dual registered to provide residential care for older persons with or without dementia.

1st Choice is a member of Kent Care Homes Association, NAPA (National Association for Provision of Activities).

The directors take an active interest in all of the homes, are very hands-on and visit the homes on a weekly basis. They are happy to roll up their sleeves if something needs doing and can often be found with jeans on, digging in the garden to make sure it is looking nice for the residents to enjoy.

The company is currently consolidating and finishing the refurbishment programme; the latest major development is at Hatfield Lodge in Folkestone, having just built eight new en-suite rooms offering superb hotel-style accommodation while still maintaining a homely and family atmosphere.

It aims to work alongside the local community to meet the changing needs of people living in the area, and aims to expand without losing the personal touch.

• 1st Choice Care Homes, 18-20 Manor Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2SA. Phone: 01303 249933.

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BUSINESS review 2009

Holiday Extras

Putting customer care first is one long holiday

As one of east Kent's largest employers, Holiday Extras sees a future marked by growth and pursuit of the ideals that have put the company firmly on the map: innovation, inspiration, people and success.

The Hythe-based travel add-ons company has achieved nationwide recognition for the high-quality service it gives 6.8 million travellers every year.

Since its foundation in 1983, the company has built a reputation as the UK market leader in airport parking and airport hotels, with its insurance, theatre and theme-park breaks businesses growing every year.

Whether scooping prizes from industry experts or receiving the plaudits of customers, Holiday Extras enjoys a prize-winning mentality matched only by its dedication to improving customer experience.

Building on its past successes, 2009 has seen the company named in the UK's Top 10 Call Centres, a Sunday Times Best 100 company to work for and Employer of the Year at the Kent Excellence in Business Awards.

This year also saw Holiday Extras offer its customers the chance to comment on the UK travel industry. The first Holiday Extras Customers' Awards were hosted by travel journalist Simon Calder, bringing together representatives from some of the travel industry's leading companies.

"The current economic climate is unprecedented, and many companies have never faced such difficult times," says Holiday Extras chairman Steve Lawrence.

"We have been proactive in facing the economic downturn head on, developing a growth strategy that has created new jobs and opportunities for existing team members. We firmly believe that the success of the company relies on our continuing dedication to meet and exceed our customers' expectations."









GOING THE EXTRA MILE: (Clockwise from top left) Holiday Extras founder Gerry Pack and Lynden Bulger of British Airways at the Customers' Awards; chairman Steve Lawrence; the Call Centre celebrates its Top Ten success with Claudia Winkleman; looking after our customers



BUSINESS review 2009

Kent College







Giving your girl a chance to excel

KENT College is an independent day and boarding school for girls aged 3-18. Classed as a 'hidden gem' in Kent, it is situated in 75 acres of safe parkland, surrounded by beautiful views.

The school is divided into the Nursery and Preparatory school for girls aged 3-11, and the Senior school and Sixth Form for girls aged 11-18. Weekly or flexi boarding are available from the age of 10.

Caring for the individual is the essential ingredient in our ethos and we aim to offer unusual and exciting opportunities, both within the classroom and as extra-curricular activities, of which there are over 60 (bee-keeping, ballet, horse-riding, gymnastics and debating are just a few).

Our Christian foundation focuses all we do in a spirit of kindness, embracing those of all faiths, and of none.

The Kent College Nursery class is a special place where girls can join for morning and/or afternoon sessions. They are cared for by dedicated and well-qualified staff with small class sizes and specialist teaching in dance, PE, swimming, music and French. The Nursery and Preparatory school offer wraparound care from 7.30am to 8.30pm.

Girls are fortunate to benefit from state-of-the-art facilities on the senior school site, such as the 360-seater theatre, swimming pool, music centre and science laboratories.

At Kent College Senior School every girl has the opportunity to excel, and building self-esteem is at the heart of all we do. We aim to give each girl the support, encouragement and means to surpass her expectations. Our girls and staff achieve fantastic results for GCSE and A-level and progress on to a variety of universities such as Cambridge, Oxford, Bath and Imperial.

The Kent College boarding community is very special; close friendships exist across all age groups. Quite a few of our boarders have parents with the British Armed Forces and we offer a 20 per cent forces discount.

Scholarships in Academia, Music, Drama, Art and Sport are available in addition to means-tested bursaries. Please contact our Bursary Department on +44(0)1892 820220 if you require further information.

As a highly recommended school with a superb level of pastoral care, we aim to help girls grow into spiritual, moral, confident young women.

To make an appointment to visit either school please contact: Nursery and Preparatory School: phone 01892 820204, email prepschool@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk; Senior School: phone 01892 822006, email seniorschool@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk.



Kent College, an independent day and boarding school for girls aged 3 - 18

Senior School T: 01892 822006 Prep School T: 01892 820204

www.kent-college.co.uk

Old Church Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4AX

Kent College is a registered charity no 307920 and is a member of the Methodist Independent Schools Group, GSA, IAPS and is accredited by the ISC.

Prep School Open Mornings

Saturday 6th February 2010 10am – 12pm
Tuesday 9th February 2010 9.30am – 11.30am

Both open mornings include a guided tour and a chance to meet the Headmistress, staff and pupils.
Please contact 01892 820204 to book your place(s).

Senior School Open Mornings

Wednesday 17th March 2010 9.30am – 1.00pm
Tuesday 11th May 2010 9.30am – 1.00pm

Both open mornings include a guided tour, Head's presentation and Q & A session. Please contact 01892 822006 to book your place(s).

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Kent County Council

Independent skills

YOUNG disabled people with mobility needs will be able to learn skills on how to live independently at a new three-day course.

Kent County Council's Short Breaks Transformation Programme, in partnership with Whizz-Kidz and Dorton House Campus at Seal, is running the Life Skills Camp on February 17-19, 2010. The closing date for applications is December 18.

The short break is open to all physically disabled young people from year 9 and up who attend a mainstream Kent school, to make new friends, have fun and build confidence.

The project will run at the Dorton House Campus, and a charge of £40 is required towards the course costs.

For information contact Phillippa Gillespie at Whizz-Kidz on 020 7798 6125 or email p.gillespie@whizz-kidz.org.uk.

Galloping to victory

A STUDENT has reached the final of a prestigious agricultural competition.

Sarah Craighill, who received first class honours in equine management at Hadlow College in Tonbridge, made the finals of the Eqvalan Duo Thesis of the Year competition run by the Royal Agricultural Society of England and sponsored by Merial Animal Health.

She was one of five students to be selected to give a presentation to judges and stormed to success after discussing the internal workings of horses in relation to their injuries.

The dramatic way to beat unemployment

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A GROUP of young people are producing a sitcom as part of a Government-funded scheme to get them into work.

The six-strong team, made up of Neets – people not in education, employment or training – will have the opportunity to apply for jobs through the programme and receive training and mentoring.

It is being run through the Sheppey Arts Foundation Enterprise (SAFE) which was awarded funding from the Department for Work and Pensions as part of the Government's Future Jobs Fund, which looks to create jobs for people aged 18-24 in long-term unemployment.

The foundation will produce a sitcom, called Park Life, which will create around 10 jobs, including fashion designer, make-up artist, digital media editor and runners.

Manager of SAFE Tony Duke said the funding will also assist other projects, creating a total of around 30 jobs which they hope to make sustainable. "People will be able to apply through Jobcentre Plus and hopefully these jobs will be for the long-term," he said. "There will be some for Park Life, but we have other projects we are working on that we will need people for."



JOBS: The sitcom needs staff in roles such as make-up artist and digital media editor

Digital media students from the University of Creative Arts in Maidstone and industry professionals will help train and mentor the Neets involved in Park Life.

They will be trained in web design, script editing, camera operation, post-production and business skills.

Mr Duke hopes this will equip them with the skills and confidence to find employment and to make then more desirable to employers.

"Although the training budget is limited we have made good links with the local universities and can access the doorstep learning programme to provide added value for our trainees," he said.

Scriptwriters Steve Cunningham and Matt Purnell came up with the sitcom, which is set in a caravan park.

Auditions were held in Minster in Sheppey for volunteer actors to take on characters in the production.

Mr Duke, who co-founded SAFE, said it is an exciting opportunity for young people to show what they can achieve.

SAFE is a social enterprise set up with the help of Business Link South East and has a number of projects in development.

It was set up earlier this year by Mr Duke, international singing coach Sue Kemp, professional singer Roy Leslie and ex-offender Ross Walker. It started after Mr Duke heard singers performing in a local bar and decided to help talented individuals.

For more about applying for jobs at the foundation see www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk.

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Recognition for support service

A CAREERS service for young people has scooped an award for its groundbreaking research into careers education.

Connexions Kent and Medway, which provides free and confidential advice for 13 to 19-year-olds, won the research by an organisation award in partnership with the Warwick Institute for Employment Research at the National Career Awards 2009.

The charity was recognised for its work on how information about careers is delivered across schools and colleges. The findings showed the important role high-quality labour market information (LMI) plays in helping young people make decisions about their futures.

Connexions and the Warwick Institute developed a range of LMI resources and teaching materials called Work for Tomorrow to help teachers deliver effective information.



WELL DONE: Connexions won the research by an organisation award

Gordon Bernard, chief executive of Connexions Kent and Medway said: "We have now won three national awards for our work in career guidance, demonstrating the innovation of the service we offer to Kent and the talents of our staff."

He added that Professor Jenny Bimrose at the Warwick Institute for Employment Research and her team helped turn the idea into a reality.

Prof Bimrose stressed the importance of the work carried out: "Connexions Kent and Medway should be congratulated for its far-sighted investment into research to support the provision of world-class services throughout the county."

Connexions Kent and Medway offers advice on issues including health, money, relationships, training and housing.

For more information see www.connexionskentandmedway.co.uk.

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To advertise in this section 01303 817040

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Please apply to Ray Kemp, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP or e-mail ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk.

Closing date for applications is Friday 18 December 2009.

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Should you wish to discuss this role informally please contact Smita Derodra or Karl Grice on 01795 590212.

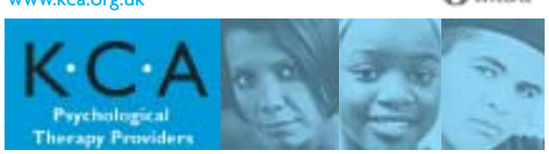
An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference: 628.

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www.kca.org.uk

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To discuss this role informally please contact the Service Manager, Lynda Burr on 01843 593832 (Monday, Wednesday or Friday).

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ADMINISTRATOR
Dartford
Salary: £13,000 to £17,000 per annum
To apply/more information: Regent Development Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 626240
Email pat.slater@regentgroup.co.uk

Part time Admin/Accounts Clerk
Folkestone
Salary: £16,000 pro rata
To apply/more information: Kent and Medway Networks Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 297050
Email info@kmn-ltd.co.uk

Quality Administrator
Medway
Salary: £15,607 - £17,750 pro rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0383
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Administrative Assistant
Faversham
Salary: £16,830 – £19,126 PRO RATA
Closing Date: 31 December 2009
To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 628
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Stock Control Personnel
Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 18 December 2009
To apply/more information: Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk

Art and Design

Curator
Margate
Salary: circa £25k
To apply/more information: Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Curator of Public Programmes
Margate
Salary: circa £25k
Closing Date: Wed 16 December
To apply/more information: Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Learning Officer
Margate
Salary: circa £25k
Closing Date: Wed 16 December
To apply/more information: Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

WAIT STAFF and BAR / COCKTAIL STAFF
Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
WAIT STAFF & BAR / COCKTAIL STAFF wanted for fine dining restaurant in Ramsgate. Experience essential. Must be able to work weekends and evenings. Please send CV to info@ageandsons.co.uk
To apply/more information: Age & Sons
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email info@ageandsons.co.uk

Customer Service, Call Centre

Customer Service Advisor
Medway
Salary: £15,225 - £17,402 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0375
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Domestic

Office Cleaner
Maidstone
Salary: £10phr
Office Cleaner, every Friday, 09.30-11:00am, £10phr. Please phone 07946 707953
To apply/more information: Minster Cleaning Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07946 707953
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Office Cleaner, Canterbury
Canterbury
Salary: £90 pw
Office Cleaner, Canterbury, Mon-Fri, 06:00-09:00, £90pw. To start in January. Tel 01622 882492
To apply/more information: Minster Cleaning Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 882492
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Laundry Assistant
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 14 December 2009
To apply/more information: Leonard Cheshire Disability
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 531138
Email sue.french@lcdisability.org

Domestic Help
Thanet
Salary: TBA
Domestic Help required at Care Home In Westgate on Sea. For more information Please contact Debbie or Diane Tel: 01843 831491
To apply/more information: Gordon Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 831491
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic Trades

Painter/Decorator
Medway
Salary: £18,433 - £20,974 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0335
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Part-time Teacher of Humanities (Maternity Cover)
Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 14th December 2009
To apply/more information: Jill McKenna Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Cover Supervisor
Rochester
Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 fte
Closing Date: Monday 14th December 2009
To apply/more information: Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email office@thomasaveling.co.uk

Programme Area Leader in Childcare/ Health and Social Care
Medway
Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: PAL 06
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Programme Area Leader in Engineering
Medway
Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
Programme Area Leader in Engineering Ref: P0219 Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009 The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0219
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

ESOL Programme Area Leader
Medway
Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0153
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Engineering/ Civil Engineering
Medway
Salary: £22,653 - £27,476 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0678
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Instructor in Catering
Medway
Salary: £16,749- £19,127 pro rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0384
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

KSRC Technician
Medway
Salary: £18,433 - £22,367 pro rata
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0647
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Learning Resource Centre Assistant
Medway
Salary: £13,554 - £16,988 pro rata
Closing Date: Wed 16 December
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0282
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

Technical and Production Manager
Margate
Salary: £25,000 - £27,000 p.a.
Closing Date: Wednesday 23rd December 2009 at 12pm
To apply/more information: Theatre Royal Margate
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 282956
Email admin@theatreroyalmargate.com

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Finance Manager
Margate
Salary: circa £34k
To apply/more information: Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Marketing, Advertising

Communications and Relationship Manager
Margate
Salary: circa £24k
Closing Date: Wed 16 December 2009
To apply/more information: Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Development Manager
Margate
Salary: circa £36k
Closing Date: Wed 16 December
To apply/more information: Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Marketing Executive
Ashford
Salary: £15-18K
Closing Date: 19th December 2009
To apply/more information: Food for Kent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email info@foodforkent.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Saturday Night Carer
Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Bethany Lodge/Bethany House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 872289
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Assistant Manager
Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check
To apply/more information: Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

CARE Staff
Tonbridge
Salary: From £7ph
CARE Staff Weekend Days and Nights available for experienced, reliable and caring people From £7ph – East Peckham For an interview please call Kevin on 01622 871081
To apply/more information: Kevin
Hale Place Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 871081
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

PRACTICE NURSE
Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
PRACTICE NURSE Required 16 hours per week in a busy surgery in New Romney, Kent. Chronic Disease Management desirable but not essential. Salary according to experience. Please contact: Practice Manager or Nurse Manager on 0844 8151174/5 or email: aallaway@nhs.net
To apply/more information: Church Lane Surgery
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 8151174/5
Email aallaway@nhs.net

Care Manager
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Bluebird Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 570638
Email canterbury@bluebirdcare.co.uk

Part-time Domiciliary Care Workers
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Bluebird Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 570638
Email canterbury@bluebirdcare.co.uk

Live in Care Workers
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Bluebird Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 570638
Email canterbury@bluebirdcare.co.uk

SUPPORT WORKERS
Sittingbourne
Salary: £13,250
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email louise.burrows@achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS
Medway
Salary: £13,250
ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, highquality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our homes in STROOD & GILLINGHAM SUPPORT WORKERS (Strood) Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS (Gillingham) Salary

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£13,250 35 hours per week For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail laura.bell@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email laura.bell@achuk.com

NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

Medway
Salary: £13,250
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email laura.bell@achuk.com

RESOURCE CENTRE TEAM LEADER

Sevenoaks
Salary: £17,745pa
To apply/more information: LCDisability
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 459510
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Cook

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
COOK Required for residential Care Home in Folkestone. Must have experience in Cooking for the elderly. Post is subject to CRB check. For more information please Call Julia Carter (Home Manager – telephone 01303 254019
To apply/more information: Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Cognitive Behavioural Therapist

Thanet
Salary: £29,789 – £39,273
Closing Date: 18 December 2009.
To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 622
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

2 x Experienced Night Senior Healthcare Assistants

Sittingbourne
Salary: £6.50p/hr
Charing Healthcare are looking to recruit, for a Care Home in Sittingbourne 2 Experienced Night Senior Healthcare Assistants for an EMI Residential Home NVQ 2 minimum 2 nights per week, 22hrs, 8pm-7am, £6.50p/hr For more details and an informal discussion please call Angie or Sarah on 01795 423695
To apply/more information: Charing Healthcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 423695
Email angie@charinghealthcare.co.uk

Early Years Visual Impairment Play Specialist

Ashford
Salary: £20,262 pro rata
Closing Date: Midday, 6th January 2010
Early Years Visual Impairment Play Specialist Starting salary £18,471, with progression through contribution related pay to £20,262 pro rata 16 hours per week, term time only Based at Ashford - delivering services in the Maidstone and Swale Areas An opportunity has arisen for a practitioner from the First Phase of Childhood (birth to 7 years of age) to work with young visually impaired children through play based intervention. You will work with individual children with visual impairment in the home and early years settings, identify opportunities for inclusion, support families in liaison with other agencies and plan for the smooth transition from home to school. Qualified and experienced NNEB or equivalent person who has additional qualifications in Portage, visual impairment, Braille, mobility or other related specialisms to contribute as part of a multidisciplinary team under the direction of the Inclusion Coordinator for Visual Impairment. The ability to travel to meet the requirements of the service is essential. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. To apply visit www.kent.gov.uk, email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk, or telephone 08458 247 904 or minicom
To apply/more information: Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/09/0552
Tel: 08458 247 904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales People

Kent
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Black Tie Foods Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 760484
Email blacktie@btconnect.com

Account Handler/Administrator

Dover
Salary: £18,000 - £20,000 pa
Closing Date: 18 December 2009
To apply/more information: Acorn Marketing
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jennifer@acorn.uk.net

PUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

SHENLEY ROAD, SMARDEN
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Shenley Road, Smarden between the junction with Bell Lane and 'West Hoy Farm', on or after 17 December 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until the works are complete.

There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions of Bell Lane and White House Lane. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bell Lane, A274 Biddenden Road and Shenley Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Highfield Road, Ripley Road and Wotton Road, Ashford, as shown below. The Order is due to commence on or after 14 December 2009 with the planned works being carried out on or after the dates shown. Adverse weather may affect the dates the works are carried out.

Road Name: **Highfield Road, Ashford**
Extent: between the junctions with Sevington Lane and Ealham Close
Dates: 18 December 2009 for up to 2 days during off peak hours
Diversion: Highfield Road, Church Road and Sevington Lane

Road Name: **Ripley Road, Ashford**
Extent: from the junction with Highfield Road to outside number 19 Ripley Road
Dates: 6 January 2010 for up to 2 days during off peak hours
Diversion: Ripley Road, Evans Road, Collard Road, Luckhurst Road and Highfield Road

Road Name: **Wotton Road, Ashford**
Extent: between the junctions with Tennyson Road and Malcolm Sargent Road.
Dates: 5 January 2010 for one night
Diversion: Wotton Road, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford Road, Romney Marsh Road and Malcolm Sargent Road

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

WELL STREET, LOOSE
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Well Street, Loose on or after Monday 14th December 2009 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is for eastbound traffic via Forstal Lane, Stockett Lane, New Cut, Busbridge Road, Well Street and for westbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electricity supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Mark Apps of Murphy Limited on 07920 150842.

YALDING BRIDGE, YALDING
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Yalding Bridge,Yalding. This order will come into effect on or after Sunday 3rd January 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

B2026 MILL HILL AND HARTFIELD ROAD, EDENBRIDGE
(50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the Order will introduces a 50mph speed limit on following length of B2026 Mill Hill and Hartfield Road from the existing termination point of 30 mph speed limit (15 metres south of the southern boundary of the property known as "Clare's" to the East Sussex border approximately 3.4 miles).

The Order was sealed on 8 December 2009 and will come into force 21 December 2009.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

B2231 LOWER ROAD, MINSTER-ON-SEA
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on the B2231 Lower Road (Forty Acres Hill), Minster-on-Sea, from the roundabout junction with Thistle Hill Way to the junction with Scocles Road. This is scheduled to commence on or after 15 December 2009 for an estimated period of one night or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Lower Road, Barton Hill Drive, Minster Road, High Street (eastbound only), Back Lane and Scocles Road.

SELLING ROAD, FAVERSHAM
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Selling Road, Faversham, from the bridge over the M2 motorway for a distance of 150 metres northwards, on or after 14 December 2009, for an estimated period of one day or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A2 Canterbury Road, A251 Ashford Road, Newhouse Lane, Winding Hill, Featherbed Lane, and Selling Road.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

09/03659/HOUSE Weavers Mill Street, Benenden
- Demolition of existing single storey extension. Construction of single storey extension and porch (amendments to TW/08/00943) and internal alterations (LB)

09/03662/LBC Weavers Mill Street, Benenden
- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of existing single storey extension. Construction of single storey extension and porch (amendments to TW/08/00939) and internal alterations (LB)

09/03718/LBC Hazelden Farm Marden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Removal of three sets of garage doors from Hazelden Barn garages; removal of internal divisional walls; replacement of modern brick pillars with green oak (LB)

09/03719/FUL 35 High Street Cranbrook, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Conversion of ground floor back to living accommodation (CA) (LB)

09/03724/LBC Bird In Hand Stone Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent - Re-tile front wall and pitched roof, incorporating insulation; repair chimney (LB)

09/03725/LBC 35 High Street Cranbrook, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed building consent - Conversion of ground floor back to living accommodation (LB

09/03685/HOUSE Triggs Farm Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst
- Two-storey rear extension with chimney and conservation rooflights and insertion of a new window at each of ground floor and first floor level in the existing east (side) elevation of the dwelling (LB)

09/03688/LBC Triggs Farm Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Two storey rear extension with chimney and conservation rooflights and insertion of a new window at each of ground floor and first floor level in the existing east (side) elevation of the dwelling (LB)

09/03736/FUL Bakers Farm House Barn Ladham Road, Goudhurst
- Change of use of barn to self catering holiday accommodation (LB)

09/03769/FUL Church Room Back Lane, Goudhurst
- Replacement of a PVCu window with a fully glazed PVCu door. New timber decking play area with timber fencing around the perimeter (LB) (CA)

09/03519/HOUSE 6 The Hawthorns Talbot Road, Hawkhurst
- Conservatory to rear (CA)

09/03578/LBC 1 Pixhall Cottages High Street, Hawkhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Satellite receiving mini dish at base of chimney to rear (LB)

09/03750/LBC 17 Berkeley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Listed building consent - To retain bare bricked chimney breast (works carried out) (LB)

09/03753/HOUSE Oakdene House Camden Park, Pantiles & St Marks
- Construction of brick based greenhouse (CA)

09/03717/FUL Old Bothy Lodge Pembury Road, Park
- Demolition of existing single storey lodge incorporating loss of some trees and erection of four bedroomed house with associated landscaping (CA)

09/03720/CAC Old Bothy Lodge Pembury Road, Park
- Conservation Area Consent: Demolition of existing single storey lodge incorporating loss of some trees (CA)

09/03696/HOUSE Wynberg Back Road, Sandhurst
- Single storey side and rear extension (CA)

09/03702/TELN5 Land At Jct Old Place Lane And Bodiam Road, Sandhurst
- Telecommunications notification: six new wooden 9m poles with associated ducting and cabling (MAST)

09/03570/FUL Flat 2 North Wing Sissinghurst Castle, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish
- Change of use of flat from domestic dwelling to office and laying of new communication cables/ducting (LB)

09/03575/LBC Flat 2 North Wing Sissinghurst Castle, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish
- Listed Building Consent: Change of use of flat from domestic dwelling to office (LB)

09/03709/LBC Bettenham Manor Bettenham Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish
- Listed Building Consent - Replacement of internal and external staircases (EIA)

09/03744/HOUSE Sissinghurst Place Biddenden Road, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish
- Two storey side extension (CA)

09/03512/HOUSE 2 School Cottage Church Road, Southborough North
- Shed in rear garden (CA)

09/03684/CAC 2 Castle Street Southborough, Southborough North
- Conservation Area Consent: Demolition of covered yard and workshop building (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 12 December 2009

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

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HIGHWAYS AGENCY

THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY DUALLING)
COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER
COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF LAND AND RIGHTS BETWEEN TONBRIDGE AND PEMBURY IN KENT

Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State for Transport has prepared in draft the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling) Compulsory Purchase Order (No) 20 under sections 239, 240, 246 and 260 of the Highways Act 1980. He is about to make this Order, and if made, the Order will authorise the Secretary of State for Transport to purchase compulsorily the land and the new rights described below for the purpose of :-

a) the construction of the new trunk roads between Tonbridge and Pembury in the Parishes of Southborough in the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling and Capel, Pembury and Southborough in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells, all in the County of Kent in pursuance of the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling) Order 20..;

b) the construction and improvement of highways and the provision of new means of access to premises in those Parishes and Boroughs in pursuance of the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Side Roads) Order 20..;

c) the improvement of the Trunk Road in those parishes and boroughs;

d) the diversion of watercourses and the execution of other works on watercourses in connection with the construction of the new trunk roads, the construction and improvement of other highways and the execution of other works mentioned above;

e) use by the Secretary of State for Transport in connection with such construction and improvement of highways and the execution of other works mentioned above; and

f) the mitigation of any adverse effects which the existence or use of the highways proposed to be constructed or improved will have on their surroundings.

Copies of the draft Order and of the map referred to therein, together with copies of the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling) Order 20.. and the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Side Roads) Order 20.. have been deposited and may be seen at all reasonable hours from 11 December 2009 until 5 March 2010 at the Highways Agency, Major Projects (South), Federated House, London Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1SZ; Tonbridge Library, Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1TG; Pembury Library, The Hop House, Hemwood Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4HS; Tunbridge Wells Library, Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1NS; Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS; Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Gateway, Tonbridge Castle, Castle Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1BG and Kent County Council Reception, Invicta House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

Any objection to the draft compulsory purchase order must be made in writing and addressed to the Secretary of State at the offices of the Highways Agency, Major Projects (South), Room 2A, Federated House, London Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1SZ to arrive before 5 March 2010 and should state the title of the Order and quote reference HA Ha/065/023/58. It should give the grounds of objection and the objector's address and interest in the land. In the preparation of an objection and the statement of grounds of objection, it should be borne in mind that the substance of any objection or representation may be communicated to other people who may be affected by it.

The contact for further information relating to this notice is Mr Graham Link (01306 878122 : graham.link@highways.gsi.gov.uk)

DESCRIPTION OF LAND AND THE NEW RIGHTS

Table 1

NOTE: (a) The land comprised in each item in this description is identified on the plan referred to in the draft Compulsory Purchase Order by means of the number or numbers shown in brackets against that item in this description.

(b) References to ownership are references to ownership or reputed ownership at the time of preparation of the draft Compulsory Purchase Order and are stated only for the purpose of identification of the land.

In the Parish of Capel in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Woodland south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass and east of Vauxhall Lane, rights to enter to enable construction and maintenance of a balancing pond, landscape mitigation planting and maintenance all on land owned by **Mr F P and Mrs M J Banfield** (Plots 1/1a, 1/1b and 1/1c); Part of A21 Tonbridge ByPass and woodland eastwards from Vauxhall Road Bridge and west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and southeast of Top Lodge at Castle Hill owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plots 1/2e, 1/2f, 1/2g, 1/2h, 1/2j, 1/2k, 1/2l, 1/2m and 1/2n); Part of existing track off Vauxhall Lane south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass serving properties around Forest Farm owned by **Forest Farm Services Limited** (Plots 1/4c, 1/4d, 1/4e, 1/4f, 1/4g, 1/4h, 1/4j and 1/4k); Woodland, agricultural land south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass and east of Vauxhall Lane, right to enter for all purposes connected with the construction and maintenance of a balancing pond and landscape mitigation planting and maintenance all on land owned by **Woodland Investment Management Limited** (Plots 1/5a, 1/5b, 1/5c, 1/5d, 1/5e, 1/5f, 1/5g, 1/5h, 1/5j, 1/5k, 1/5l, 1/5m, 1/5n and 1/5o); Agricultural land south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass east Vauxhall Lane right to enter for all purposes connected with the construction and maintenance of a balancing pond and landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **Mr and Mrs D G King** (Plots 1/6a, 1/6b, 1/6c, 1/6d, 1/6e, 1/6f, 1/6g, 1/6h, 1/6j, 1/6k, 1/6l, 1/6m, 1/6n, 1/6o, 1/6p, 1/6q and 1/6r); Part of existing driveway to Fish Lodge northeast of A21 Tonbridge By Pass at Castle Hill owned by **Mr M S Clarke** (Plot 1/7a); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road at King's Standing, part of existing access track to Castle Hill Wood owned by **Glendridge Estates Limited** (Plots 1/8a, 1/8b, 1/8c, 1/8d, 1/8e, 1/8f and 1/8g); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road at King's Standing owned by **Mr M S Uddin** (Plots 1/9a, 1/9b and 1/9c); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road at King's Standing owned by **Mr A P and Mrs K A Patel** (Plot 1/10a); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr W M Netto and Mr C G Netto** (Plots 1/11a, 1/11b and 1/11c); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr J J Cooney** (Plots 1/12a and 1/12b); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr M G Patel & Mrs U Patel** (Plots 1/13a and 1/13b); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr S Jarmakani** (Plots 1/14a and 1/14b); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr A A Kazma** (Plots 1/15a, 1/15b, 1/15c and 1/15d); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr J Patel** (Plot 1/16a); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr I D Braisby** (Plot 1/17a); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Mr A Sanson** (Plot 1/18a); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road northwest Castle Hill Wood owned by **Tiara Limited** (Plots 1/19a and 1/19b); Woodland south A21 (T) Pembury Road forming part of Castle Hill Wood, woodland west of A21 (T) Pembury Road at Well Wood and part FP 192A, right to enter for all purposes in connection with the construction and maintenance of a cut slope strengthened by ground anchors, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **The Trustees of the John Malcolm Guthries 1965 Settlement Castlehill Woodland and Well Wood** (Plots 1/20a, 1/20b, 1/20c, 1/20d, 1/20e, 1/20f, 1/20g, 1/20h, 1/20j, 3/2a, 3/2b and 3/2c); Woodland and part access to estate and Top Lodge north A21 (T) Pembury Road, Woodland forming part of Burgess Rough north A21 (T) Pembury Road, residential property and garden known as Burgess Hill Cottage, agricultural land northeast A21 (T) Pembury Road at Castle Hill, part woodland, woodland track and agricultural land east A21 (T) Pembury Road at Potters Wood, agricultural land west A21 (T) Pembury Road and Carpenters Cottage right to enter for all purposes connected with the construction and maintenance of a balancing pond and landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **The Smith & Williamson Trust Corporation Limited and GSE Trustees Limited** (Plots 1/21a, 1/21b, 1/21c, 1/21d, 1/21e, 1/21f, 1/21g, 1/21h, 1/21j, 1/21k, 1/21l, 2/3a, 2/3b, 2/3c, 2/3d, 2/3e, 2/3f, 3/1a, 3/1b and 3/1c); Property and garden known as Burgess Hill Farmhouse, part equestrian manege northeast A21 (T) Pembury Road at Castle Hill owned by **The Secretary of State for Transport** (Plots 1/22a, 2/1a and 2/1b); Agricultural land, tree plantation east A21 (T) Pembury Road south of Burgess Hill Farm, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **Ms R C Teacher** (Plots 2/2a, 2/2b, 2/2c, 2/2d, 2/2e, 2/2f, 2/2g, 2/2h and 2/2j); Agricultural land west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north FP 192A owned by **Mr J D Tyler** (Plots 3/8b and 3/8c)

In the Parish of Southborough in the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling in the County of Kent

Woodland and verge to existing track south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass and east of Vauxhall Lane owned by **Mr F P and Mrs M J Banfield** (Plots 1/1d and 1/1e); Woodland and verge to existing track south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass and east of Vauxhall Lane right to enter for all purposes connected with the construction and maintenance of a balancing pond and landscape mitigation planting and maintenance owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plots 1/2a, 1/2b and 1/2c); Verge to existing track east of Vauxhall Lane and South of A21 Tonbridge By Pass owned by **Mrs A D Tyler and Ms B F Bursell** (Plot 1/3a); Part of existing track off Vauxhall Lane south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass serving properties around Forest Farm owned by **Forest Farm Services Limited (C/o Mr J P Milgate)** (Plots 1/4a and 1/4b); Agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road east Vauxhall Lane, right to enter of agricultural land south of A21 (T) Pembury Road south Vauxhall Lane to re-grade and reduce the land levels as a flood compensation area on land owned by **Mr J D Tyler** (Plots 1/23a and 1/23b)

In the Parishes of Southborough in the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling and Capel in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Woodland south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass and east of Vauxhall Lane owned by **Mr F P and Mrs M J Banfield** (Plot 1/1f); Part of A21 Tonbridge By Pass eastwards from Vauxhall Road Bridge owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plot 1/2d); Agricultural land south of A21 Tonbridge By Pass east Vauxhall Lane owned by **Mr and Mrs D G King** (Plot 1/6c)

In the Parishes of Capel and Pembury in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Part existing track east A21 (T) Pembury Road at Potters Wood owned by **The Smith & Williamson Trust Corporation Limited and GSE Trustees Limited** (Plot 2/3g); Woodland south A21 (T) Pembury Road forming part of Castle Hill Wood on land owned by T**he Trustees of the John Malcolm Guthries 1965 Settlement Castlehill Woodland and Well Wood** (Plot 2/4a); Woodland and agricultural land west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Castle Hill Farm owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plots 2/5a and 2/5b)

In the Parish of Pembury in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Part agricultural land east A21 (T) Pembury Road at Potters Wood, part existing farm track off Dislingbury Road east A21 (T) Pembury Road, part Dislingbury Road and verges at junction with A21 (T) Pembury Road, woodland east A21 (T) north and south of Pembury Walks, existing farm access track east of A21 (T) Pembury Road north of Longfield Road, woodland east of A21 (T) Pembury Road and east of Tonbridge Road, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance owned by **The Smith & Williamson Trust Corporation Limited and GSE Trustees Limited** (Plots 2/3h, 2/3j, 2/3k, 2/3l, 2/3m, 2/3n, 2/3o, 2/3p, 2/3q, 2/3r, 2/3s, 2/3t, 2/3u, 4/7a and 4/7b); Woodland and verge east A21 (T) Pembury Road north of Dislingbury Road, Dislingbury Road Woodland and verge east A21 (T) Pembury Road north of Pembury Walks, part Pembury Walks east A21 (T) Pembury Road, part of existing A21 (T) Pembury Road and Tonbridge Road junction east of A21 (T) Pembury Road, woodland south of Knights Park Road and west of A21 (T) Pembury Road owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plots 2/5a, 2/5b, 2/5c, 2/5d, 2/5e, 2/5f, 2/5g, 2/5h, 2/5j, 2/5k, 4/5b, 4/5c, 4/5h, 4/5j and 4/5k); Woodland west of A21 (T) Pembury Road at North Lodge south of FP WT 192A, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **Mr F E Newham and Mr H Gillow** (Plots 3/3a, 3/3b, 3/3c, 3/3d, 3/3e and 3/3f); Property known as North Lodge and garden to property west of A21 (T) Pembury Road owned by **Mrs P Mundy** (Plot 3/4a); Part existing track west of A21 (T) Pembury Road south of North Lodge, part of access track west of A21 (T) Pembury Road forming part of property known as Colebrooke, Woodland west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Longfield Road, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **Gardena Ltd** (Plots 3/5a, 3/5b, 3/5f, 3/5h, 3/5j, 3/5k, 3/5l, 3/5m, 3/5n, 3/5o, 3/5p, 4/1a, 4/1b, 4/1c, 4/1d, 4/1e, 4/1f, 4/1g and 4/1h); Part of woodland garden to property known as Garden Cottage west of A21 (T) Pembury Road owned by **Mr G Russell & Mrs J Russell** (Plots 3/6a, 3/6b, 3/6c, 3/6d, 3/6e, 3/6f, 3/6g, 3/6h, 3/6j, 3/6k, 3/6l and 3/6m); Part of garden to property known as The Coach House west of A21 (T) Pembury Road owned by Mr **R J Lamb & Mrs J M Lamb** (Plot 3/7a); Agricultural land east of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Yew Tree Farm owned by **Ms R C Teacher** (Plots 4/2a, 4/2b, 4/2c and 4/2d); Woodland west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Longfield Road owned by **Mr J D Tyler** (Plot 4/3b); Property and outbuildings known as Middle Lodge north of Longfield Road and west of A21 (T) Pembury Road owned by **Mr M Greenwood & Mrs M Greenwood** (Plot 4/4a); Woodland east of A21 (T) Pembury Road and west of Tonbridge Road owned by **Kilmartin Property Group Limited** (Plot 4/6b)

In the Parishes of Pembury and Southborough in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Part existing track west of A21 (T) Pembury Road south of North Lodge, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **Gardena Ltd** (Plots 3/5c, 3/5e and 3/5g); Agricultural land west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Longfield Road owned by **Mr J D Tyler** (Plots 4/3a, 4/3c and 4/3d); Woodland south of property known as Middle Lodge west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Longfield Road owned by **Mr M Greenwood & Mrs M Greenwood** (Plot 4/4b); Part of Longfield Road and west of A21 (T) Pembury Road owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plot 4/5a); Woodland west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and south of Longfield Road owned by **Kilmartin Property Group Limited** (Plots 4/6a and 4/6o)

In the Parish of Southborough in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Part existing track west of A21 (T) Pembury Road south of North Lodge owned by **Gardena Ltd** (Plot 3/5d); Agricultural land west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and south FP 192A, agricultural land west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and north of Longfield Road owned by **Mr J D Tyler** (Plots 3/8a, 3/8d , 4/3e, 4/3f, 4/3g, 4/3h, 4/3j, 4/3k, 4/3l and 4/3m); Part of existing Longfield Road west of A21 (T) Pembury Road, part of Knights Park west of A21 (T) Pembury Road south of Longfield Road owned by **West Kent Division of Kent Highway Services** (Plots 4/5d, 4/5e, 4/5f and 4/5g); Woodland south of Longfield Road and west of A21 (T) Pembury Road, woodland and existing track west of A21 (T) Pembury Road and south of Longfield Road, Woodland known as Robingate Wood south of Longfield Road and west of A21 (T) Pembury Road, right to enter for all purposes connected with landscape mitigation planting and maintenance on land owned by **Kilmartin Property Group Limited** (Plots 4/6c, 4/6d, 4/6e, 4/6f, 4/6g, 4/6h, 4/6j, 4/6k, 4/6l, 4/6m, 4/6n, 4/6p, 4/6q and 4/6r)

Table 2

In the Parish of Capel in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Mr J Liddell-Simpson & Others & South Eastern Gas Board (Private gas Main) (1/9c and 1/9d); Trustees of the John Malcolm Guthries 1965 Settlement Castlehill Woodland & Well Wood, Tonbridge (access rights to A21) (1/15c and 3/1c); National Grid Wireless Limited (access rights to mast site) (1/20h); Forestry Commission (Woodland) (2/3e and 2/3f)

In the Parish of Pembury in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells in the County of Kent

Forestry Commission (Woodland) (2/3l, 2/3m, 2/3n, 2/3o, 2/3p, 2/3q, 2/3s, 2/3t, 2/3u, 4/2a and 4/2d); The Woolwich (Mortgagee) (3/6a, 3/6b, 3/6c, 3/6d, 3/6e, 3/6f, 3/6g, 3/6h, 3/6j, 3/6k, 3/6l and 3/6m)

PAUL ARNOLD
Senior Project Manager

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement, (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
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THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2004 AS AMENDED BY THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 AND 2009.

REGULATION 17 – NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE MATTERS AND STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS UNDER REGULATION 17: CONSULTATION ON DRAFT COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION SERVICE STRATEGIES IN KENT DOCUMENT, KENT COUNTY COUNCIL. (2009).

On the 30th March 2009 the County Council formally approved the Draft Community Infrastructure Provision Service Strategies document as Supplementary Guidance, for public consultation.

The purpose of this Supplementary Guidance is to:

- Provide the evidence base to inform the preparation of Local Development Documents, by Local Planning Authorities, concerning those service delivery matters which are the statutory responsibility of the Kent County Council.
- Inform interested parties of those projects which the County Council proposes to implement within the next 3 to 5 years in accordance with its Medium Term Financial Plan and of the likely requirement for financial contributions from central government and the private sector to support such provision.

The guidance sets out the national context for the provision of community services: primary and secondary education; youth services; adult education; libraries and archives; and adult social services and then explains how this framework will be applied in the delivery and management of particular projects and services in the districts/ boroughs in the County Council's administrative area, (which excludes Medway unitary area), to ensure the development of sustainable communities pursuant to Planning Policy Statement no.1. The document will be updated periodically to reflect new and emerging requirements based on proposals in Local Development Documents as they are adopted by district planning authorities.

The guidance has been prepared pursuant to the advice in paragraph 6.3 of Planning Policy Statement 12 which permits County Councils and other administrative bodies, to produce information in support of and to inform the preparation of LDD's by Local Planning Authorities. The PPS advises that such guidance should be subject to the same provisions of publicity and adoption as required by Regulations 17 and 18 of the Town and Country Local Development (England)Regulations 2004 (as amended) following which it may be regarded as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and planning appeals.

The statutory consultation period will commence on 9th December 2009 and will end on 20th January 2010.

You are invited to participate in the preparation of this guidance by commenting on the document. Copies of the document can be viewed/downloaded from the Council's web site at www.kent.gov.uk/publications/community-and-living/guide-to-development-contributions.htm .

The draft Community Infrastructure Provision Supplementary Guidance and a copy of the relevant SD matters and Statement of consultation, will be available for inspection at the Kent County Council's principal office, County Hall, Maidstone; District Council main offices; and main libraries in the County, during normal office hours. Local Libraries will also have direct access to the County Council's web site where this information may be reviewed. The Guidance is also available on request, from the postal or e-mail addresses shown below.

Representations on the Guidance should be made in writing to the address below:

Community Infrastructure Provision Service Strategies in Kent

Supplementary Guidance Consultation
Development and Investment Team
Regeneration and Economy Division
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XJ

Or via e-mail to: DIT.CIP.Responses@kent.gov.uk

Representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specific address of the adoption of the Supplementary Guidance. The Council must receive representations no later than 5.00pm on 20th January 2010.

Development and Investment Team
Chief Executive's Directorate
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME141XJ

December 2009.

Kent County Council

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/02849/FL – The Nursery Taylors Lane Trottiscliffe West Malling Kent – Mrs P Valler is applying for a replacement agricultural building comprising a workshop and office facilities; replacement of glasshouse with 2 polytunnels; and revised parking and access. Reason: CA

TM/09/02791/FL & TM/09/02792/LB – The Walnut Tree North Meadow Offham West Malling Kent ME19 5NU – Dr Christopher Goat is applying for conversion of barn to single bed dwelling. Reason: LB

TM/09/02826/LB – 2 The Laurels Addington Green Addington West Malling Kent ME19 5BB – Mr P Annis is applying for conservatory (Resubmission of TM09/02068/LB). Reason: LB CA

TM/09/02834/FL & TM/09/02912/LB – 56 Town Hill West Malling Kent ME19 6QN – Mr B Dyer is applying for replacement single storey rear extension and alterations to roof. Reason: LB CA HH

TM/09/02853/LB – The Angel Inn Addington Green Addington West Malling Kent ME19 5BB – Mr Graham Bayfield is applying for Listed Building Application: Removal of old signs & fixing of new. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/02736/FL – Land West Of Aylesford Cold Store Forstal Road Aylesford Kent – Mrs Sara Sime is applying for new scout hut and equipment store. Reason: GPI

TM/09/02886/FL – Elmhurst Bates Hill Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9HB

– Mr Stephen Spendlove is applying for construction of garden deck (retrospective). Reason: CA HH

TM/09/02916/FLX – Ivors High Cross Road Ivy Hatch Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0NR

– Mr Dominic Lowres is applying for renewal of extant planning permission TM/07/02472/FL: Conversion of barn to single storey residential unit. Reason: CA

TM/09/02862/FL – The Nook The Street Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9HG

– Mr Steve Wentworth is applying for refurbishment and extension. Reason: HH CA LB

TM/09/02867/FL – Windmill House Windmill Hill Wrotham Heath Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7SX – Mr And Mrs W Garrett are applying for replacement dwelling. Reason: HA

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB	Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA	Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
GPI	Application is of general Public Interest
HA	Site is over 1ha.
HH	Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 3 January 2010.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
13 December 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Under the Council's Constitution, each month the Leader of the Council will prepare a forward plan containing details of the key decisions to be made by the Cabinet during the four month period following its publication. Each plan will contain a list of documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration in relation to the key decisions on the plan, although other documents not listed in the plan may also be considered. The dates when the forward plans will be published are 17 December 2009 and 15 January, 12 February, 17 March, 16 April, 17 May, 16 June, 16 July, 17 August, 16 September, 15 October, 16 November and 17 December 2010.

Copies of the Council's constitution and of each forward plan will be available for inspection by members of the public free of charge during normal office hours at the Council's principal office at Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ and at Tonbridge Castle. The forward plan is also viewable on the Council's website.

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

DAVID HUGHES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Insolvency Act 1986
REFRACTIVE CONSULTANTS LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 5512112

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that we, Ian Douglas Yerrill and Bernard Hoffman both of Gerald Edelman Business Recovery, Gateway House, Highpoint Buisness Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 2 December 2009.

I Yerrill and B Hoffman, Joint Liquidators

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 123 (2A)

LAND AT OXLEY SHAW LANE LEYBOURNE

Notice is hereby given that Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council intends to dispose (leasehold disposal) of an area of land to Leybourne Parish Council – Leybourne Community Group for the construction of a play area, at Oxley Shaw Lane Leybourne. (as identified on the plans which are available for inspection at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council offices at the address below) which consists of part of an open space.

Objections to the intended disposal of land must be made in writing and addressed to:

Katie Iggulden (BSC HONS) MRICS
Estates Services Manager
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Gibson Building, Gibson Drive
Kings Hill, West Malling
Kent, ME19 4LZ

By no later than 4 January 2010
Dated the 13 day of December 2009

DAVID HUGHES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Nissan seeking Cube route to sales solution

By **STEVE LOADER**

NOBODY would call the Nissan Cube pretty.

Even Nissan describes the boxy newcomer as a "bulldog in sunglasses".

But sunglasses hint at the car's cool image and, make no mistake, this is a cult king in waiting; for those who need more space than current cool cars like the BMW Mini or Fiat 500, this may be the answer.

Due to hit the market here in January and priced from a not unreasonable £14,000, the car is a phenomenon on Nissan's home market; the original launched in Japan 10 years ago and we are getting the third generation model.

While the Cube has become increasingly sophisticated over that decade, the design repeats a 'wheel-at-each-corner' format of long wheelbase relative to overall length – at 2.53m, it is shorter than a Ford Fiesta supermini – and wide track, boding well for passenger and load space.

Nissan – now the UK's largest carmaker – claims the Cube seats five in "lounge-like comfort". A sliding rear bench can be raised 'theatre'-style for those behind to look over the heads of those in front.

Generous light from big vertical windows is enhanced by a large sunroof – a Japanese-style 'shoji' rice paper shade is an option available for this – and MPV appeal is boosted by lots of stowage ideas.

But if the exterior is 'cuboid', Nissan designers worked hard to ensure the interior features as many curves as possible.

The car will launch with a 108bhp 1.6-litre petrol engine – CO2 151g/km and £150/year road tax – averaging around 42.8mpg, with a 1.5-litre diesel to follow next May and the hint that an all-electric Cube might follow the concept model aired at several motor shows.

For extra ease of use in the Cube's likely urban environment, it is also available with a CVT (continuously-variable transmission) auto gearbox.

The Cube's long awaited UK arrival will be marked by the first 100 examples sold being LDN special editions, finished in a unique 'bitter chocolate' colour with matching suede interior. Priced from £14,600, the LDN also comes with climate control, rain sensing wipers and auto headlamps.

This marketing move hints at Nissan's desire to make the Cube a potentially lucrative customising star like the Mini, Fiat and even Kia's similarly characterful Soul, while exclusivity will be boosted by the fact that just 2,000 will be imported to the UK during 2010.

Advance interest is being stoked by a newly-opened Cube store in London for previewing the car and holding associated events.

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09 59 ZAFIRA 19 EXCLUSIVE DIESEL AUTO PAS BLACK MET DEL MILES....£16995
09 09 FOCUS 1-6 TITANIUM AUTO PAS 5 DR SEA GREY SILVER 5000 MILES....£13995
09 09 ZAFIRA 19 EXCLUSIVE DIESEL AUTO PAS BLACK MET DEL MILES....£15495
09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 900 MILES....£7995
09 09 MAZDA 3 TAKARA 1-6 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR SILVER 7000 MILES....£12495
09 09 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 2000 MILES....£9995
09 09 FORD C-MAX 2-0 ZETEC AUTO PAS 5 DR AVALON BLUE 3000 MILES....£13995
09 09 FUSION 1-6 ZETEC PLUS AUTO PAS 5 DR AVALON BLUE 2000 MILES....£10995
09 09 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE MET 3000 MILES....£12995
09 09 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 200 MILES....£10995
09 09 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS DENIM BLUE 4000 MILES....£9995
09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 3000M....£7995
09 58 NISSAN MICRA ACTIV LUXURY 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 1700 MILES....£8995
08 58 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C DEEP RED 3000 MILES....£11995
08 58 MAZDA 3 TAKARA 1-6 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR RED MET 5000 MILES....£11995
08 58 A CLASS 150 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C SILVER 7000 MILES....£13995
08 58 MEGANE 1-6 EXPRESSION ESTATE AUTO PAS BLACK 600 MILES....£9995
08 58 GRAND SCENIC 2-0 S DYNAMIQUE 5 DR AUTO PAS GREY 7000 MILES....£12995
08 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR BLACK 4000M....£7495
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 6000 MILES....£9995
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-4 STYLE CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 5000 MILES....£9495
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3 DR AUTO PAS RED 1400 MILES....£7995
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3 DR AUTO PAS RED 2000 MILES....£7995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES....£8895
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES....£8995
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1900 MILES....£7995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 1800 MILES....£8995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 3000 MILES....£8995
08 58 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3 DR AUTO PAS 750 MILES....£9495
08 58 TOYOTA AURIS TR AUTO PAS AIR/C DIESEL 5 DR GREY 4000 MILES....£11995
08 58 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 6000 MILES....£9995
08 58 KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C MET BLUE 8000 MILES....£9995

COUPES & CONVERTIBLES

09 09 FORD FOCUS CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO PAS ALLOYS RED 4000 MILES....£16995
08 58 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT CC 1-6 AUTO ALL BLACK LEATHER 2000 MILES....£15995
08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS LATTE 4000 MILES....£11995
08 08 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS PACIFIC 2000 MILES....£10995
08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES....£13495
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS INFERNO 7000 MILES....£10995
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES....£13495
06 56 MICRA 1-6 SPORT CONVERT AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 18000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GREY 16000 MILES....£10995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES....£10495
06 06 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES....£9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 21000 MILES....£9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 10000 MILES....£10495
06 06 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 2-0 CONVERT AUTO PAS MISTY GREY 39000M....£9495

FUSION & FIESTA

07 57 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 19000 MILES....£7995
07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLACK 8000 MILES....£8995
07 07 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES....£8495
06 56 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 8000 MILES....£7495
06 56 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 13000 MILES....£6995

FORD FOCUS

08 08 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 4000 MILES....£11495
08 57 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 7000 MILES....£10495
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE ESTATE AUTO AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 1900 MILES....£8995
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 7000 MILES....£8995
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS GREEN 5000 MILES....£8995
07 57 FOCUS 16 ZETEC 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SEA GREY 13000 MILES....£8995
07 07 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA 5 DR AUTO PAS SEA GREY AIR 17000 MILES....£8995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS TONIC BLUE 23000 MILES....£8995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C SEA GREY 13000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 13000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 17000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO ESTATE PAS AIR/C TONIC BLUE 18000 MILES....£8495
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES....£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX HATCH AUTO PAS AIR/C STRATOS SILVER 10000 MILES....£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SILVER 18000 MLS....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS 11000 MLS....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE TONIC 16000 MLS....£7495
05 55 FORD FOCUS GHIA 1-6 AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C DENIM BLUE 28000 MILES....£6995
03 03 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO 4 DR PAS AIR/C PEPPER RED 48000 MILES....£4995
02 02 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS AIR/ PEPPER RED 38000 MILES....£3995

MONDEO

06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES....£9495
06 56 MONDEO 2-0 LX AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C SILVER METALLIC 24000 MILES....£8495

CORSA

08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3 DR ICE BLUE 300 MILES....£8995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER 4000 MILES....£9495
07 57 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS BLUE 9000 MILES....£9495
07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3 DR ULTRA BLUE 15000 MILES....£7995
07 07 NEW CORSA 1-4 SX AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 2000 MILES....£8995
07 56 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 9000 MILES....£7995
07 56 CORSA 1-2 LIFE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 5000 MILES....£7995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 ACTIVE 5 DR AIR/C AUTO PAS BLUE 16000 MILES....£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES....£6495
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES....£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS ULTRA BLUE 2000 MILES....£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5 DR STAR SILVER 24000 MILES....£5495
02 02 CORSA 1-4 COMFORT AUTO PAS BLUE METALLIC 39000 MILES....£3995

DAIHATSU

06 06 DAIHATSU CHARADE 1-0 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 12000 MILES....£4995

CITROENS

08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES....£9995
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06 56 CITROEN PICASSO 2-0 EXCLUSIVE AUTO DIABLO 16000 MILES....£8495

MAZDA

07 57 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER BLUE 17000 MILES....£10995
07 57 MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER 8000 MILES....£10995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR SEA GREY 16000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR MET BLUE 9000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR SEA GREY 21000 MILES....£9495

SUZUKI

06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS CATS EYES BLUE 15000 MILES....£5995
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 16000 MILES....£7495
02 51 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 2-0 DIESEL AUTO PAS SILVER 50000 MILES....£4995

HONDA

06 06 HONDA CR-V EXECUTIVE AUTO PAS SAT NAV LEATHER 19000MILES....£13995

HYUNDAI

08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES....£6995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 5000 MILES....£6495
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES....£5995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES....£5995
07 07 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 4000 MILES....£5995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER GREEN 7000 MILES....£6995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER GREEN 16000 MILES....£6995
06 56 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 9000 MILES....£5495
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 7000 MILES....£5495
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES....£5295

TOYOTA

08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR ALLOYS BLACK 8000 MILES....£9495
07 57 YARIS 1-3 ZINC 3 DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLACK UNDER 800 MILES....£8995
07 57 AYGO 1-0 PLUS 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES....£7495
06 56 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET SILVER 15000 MILES....£9995
06 56 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET SILVER 6000 MILES....£9995
06 06 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS SILVER 6000 MILES....£8495
05 05 TOYOTA YARIS 1-0 T SPIRIT AUTO PAS ICE BLUE 17000 MILES....£6995
04 54 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS CHAMPAGNE 6000 MILES....£7495
04 04 COROLLA 1-6 T SPIRIT 3 5 DR AUTO AIR/C MET SILVER 24000 MILES....£6995
02 02 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS SILVER 22000 MILES....£5995
02 51 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS BLUE 52000 MILES....£4995

NISSAN

08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5 DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES....£8995
08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA R 5 DR AUTO PAS BLACK MET 2000 MILES....£9995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES....£8995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES....£7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 15000 MILES....£7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3 DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 23000 MILES....£6995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3 DR AUTO PAS ICE BLUE 12000 MILES....£6995
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 11000 MILES....£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 18000 MILES....£6495
03 53 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS WHITE DIAMOND 14000 MILES....£4995
03 03 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 3 DR AUTO PAS 14000 MILES....£3995
99 V NISSAN MICRA 1-0 PROFILE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C 70000 MILES....£2695

SKODA

08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES....£9495
08 08 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 5000 MILES....£8995

MG ROVER

03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES....£2995

CHEVROLET

09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 900 MILES....£7995
08 08 CHEVROLET KALOS 1-4 SX 5 DR AUTO PAS POLY SILVER 10000 MILES....£6495
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 10000 MILES....£4995
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5 DR BLUE 12000 MILES....£4995
06 56 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 17000 MILES....£5995
06 06 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR BLUE 8000 MILES....£5495
06 06 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 10000MILES....£5495

VOLKSWAGEN

07 07 VW POLO 1-4 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET GREY 7000 MILES....£8995
07 07 VW POLO 1-4 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 7000 MILES....£8995
06 06 VW GOLF 1-6 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY METALLIC 10000 MILES....£10995
05 55 VW POLO 1-4 S 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER JUST 10000 MILES....£7495

ASTRA

08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE BLUE 12000 MILES....£8995
08 08 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS HATCH ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES....£8995
08 08 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 12000 MILES....£8495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 14000 MILES....£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR SILVER 17000 MILES....£7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR 5 DR TURQUOISE UNDER 300 MILES....£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN LIFE AUTO PAS ESTATE MET GREY 7000 MILES....£8495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR 15000 MILES....£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANNA COTTA 6000 MILES....£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR METRO BLUE 14000 MILES....£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR TURQUOISE 10000 MILES....£7995
07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES....£6495
06 56 ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNA COTTA 17000 MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR STAR SILVER 8000 MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR METRO BLUE 11000 MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR SILVER 12000 MILES....£7995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C RED METALLIC 19000 MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR HATCH PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 7000 MILES....£6995
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 12000 MILES....£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES....£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR BLACK 12000 MILES....£6495
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS AIR 5 DR ESTATE ULTRA BLUE 18000 M....£7495
06 55 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS HATCH SILVER 3000 MILES....£7495
04 54 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS AIR 5 DR MOONSTONE 38000 MILES....£5995

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08 57 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS PANNA COTTA 7 SEATER 10000 MILES....£9995
07 57 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS METRO BLUE 7 SEATER 10000 MILES....£9495
07 07 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS SILVER 7 SEATER 17000 MILES....£8895
06 56 ZAFIRA 2-2 LIFE AUTO PAS BLACK 7 SEATER 17000 MILES....£8995
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Matthew Beech

Tight-fisted Focus

IT IS astonishing how competitive the green motor market is becoming.

Aware that VW now has an ultra-frugal and road tax exempt Golf BlueMotion on sale, Ford has revised its Focus ECOnetic miser.

However, you must spend £500 on the optional auto start-stop system to enable the Ford to virtually match the VW with an official combined fuel figure of 74.2mpg and a zero road tax 99g/km of CO2 emissions figure.

This takes the Ford to £19,995 compared with the £2,000 cheaper VW, which doesn't need start-stop either to escape road tax, but discounts on the latter are unlikely to be as tempting as those on the Focus.

And the Ford has other eco tricks, apart from the start-stop system that shuts down and then automatically re-fires the 109bhp 1.6-litre diesel engine when halted by traffic lights or heavy traffic.

Firstly, it's the first Ford to feature 'Eco Mode' as standard, to educate the driver towards better fuel economy.

Secondly, it can recover energy from braking to recharge the battery – as on some hybrids and most BMWs – saving engine power and fuel driving the alternator.



Peugeot's smart MPV move

EATING humble pie or a shrewd move?

View it how you like, but Peugeot has shifted position dramatically on the issue of MPVs.

Until this year, the French marque left group competition in the MPV sector largely to partner brand Citroën's successful Picasso line-up.

Peugeot concentrated instead largely on enhanced SW estate versions of its cars, but not all customers 'get' the point of the conventional yet roomy SWs even though some feature seven seats.

I understand that dealers have made their point to Peugeot management too, forcing a change of heart resulting in the clever 3008 SUV/MPV crossover earlier this year and this smart 5008 MPV arriving in January.

Priced from £16,895 with seven seats and high quality cabin, this should please dealers and their customers alike.



Rebirth for blue and white Gordini legend?

RENAULT has sprinkled sporting stardust on everyday models lately by applying 'Williams' and 'Renaultsport' labels yet ignored the legendary Gordini tag of the 50s-70s.

Amédée Gordini was hired by Renault and creating unlikely performance stars from models like the Renault 8. No doubt inspired by Fiat's dramatic revival of its own Abarth 'tuning house' though, Renault is reviving Gordini and the famous blue and twin white stripe livery for new Twingo and Clio sports models next year – the Twingo (pictured) arrives in March, 2010.





Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO2 emissions 119g/km.

Vehicle shown features mica paint available at extra cost of £325. 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev79242). Scrappage Allowance subject to eligibility, please ask for terms and conditions.





Classy name to head Alfa centenary charge

by STEVE LOADER

UNLIKE the sporting image of the brand, there has been hesitancy about when we would see a long-awaited replacement for the ageing Alfa Romeo 147.

But the Italian brand now says it will be at least late spring 2010 – the marque's centenary year – before the Alfa Romeo Giulietta arrives in showrooms.

Fans have already waited a long time for the return of an evocative name, first applied to a pretty coupe (1954-65) still regarded as one of the great Alfas.

Unfortunately, the name was then dragged down by appearing on a saloon produced from 1977-85, though few appeared here due to a poor record on rot and reliability.

The resurgent brand will hope the third Giulietta – a five-door Ford Focus class hatchback this time – restores lustre to the classic name though.

It certainly has the distinctive style of 'new-age' Alfa that has already created the smart MiTo supermini, classy 159 saloon and sporting estate and the awesome 8C Competizione supercar.

Typically responsive handling is promised and it will also carry the Alfa DNA system seen on the MiTo, which allows the river to select a chassis, steering and power set-up according to mood and road conditions.

Four turbocharged engines will be available at launch, all fitted with a standard start and stop system for reduced consumption and emissions: two 1.4-litre petrol engines of 120 and 170bhp and two diesels, one of 105bhp and 1.6-litre plus a 170bhp 2.0-litre.

A 235bhp performance flagship is promised for later and all versions will come with a Q2 electronic differential to ensure well-behaved power application through the front wheels.



New 'E' upholds Mercedes-Benz safety tradition

HAVING raised the bar on executive car safety so often in the past, crash test top marks for the latest Mercedes-Benz E-Class was something of a 'must win' for the German marque.

But the new 'E' has not fallen short; it achieved the highest maximum rating yet seen of five stars in the Euro NCAP safety test, which is also now more stringent than ever.

Launched in June, the new E-Class passed more than 150 in-house high-speed crash tests and more than 5,000 realistic crash simulations.

These not only included impact configurations prescribed for various tests around the world, but also those derived from M-B's own accident research data.

The marque started its famous crumple zone research in 1939, though the intervention of World War Two delayed its appearance in a production car until 1959, before going on to appear in all modern cars.

Mercedes also invented the airbag and safety features on the new E-Class include Attention Assist, the drowsiness detection system fitted as standard to ensure the driver is alert and awake behind the wheel.

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09/59	Corsa 1.3 CDTi Active 5dr H/B CD, A/C, E/Front windows, Choice of Colours Del Mileage	£13,505	£2510	£10,995
09/59	Corsa 1.3 CDTi Active 3dr H/B CD, A/C, E/Front windows, Star silver Del Mileage	£12,755	£2760	£9,995
09/09	Corsa 1.2 Life A/C 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags, Air Con Choice of Colours,		£8,395	
09/59	Insignia 1.8 Exclusive 5dr H/B Plus Pack CD, A/C, Alloy wheels, Front Fog Lights, Soverign Silver Del Mileage	£18,460	£3965	£14,495
09/59	Astra 1.6 Active 5dr H/B CD, A/C, E/Front windows, Soverign Silver Del Mileage, New List Price	£17,440	£5445	£11,995
09/09	Agila 1.2 Design 5dr H/B CD, A/C, E/Front windows, Choice of Colours Del Mileage	£10,945	£1964	£8,495
08/58	Corsa 1.3 CDTi SXi 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags A/C Sunroof Silver Lightning Under 9 K			£8,595
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08/58	Corsa 1.2 Life A/C 3dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags, A/C Star Silver Under 17K			£6,995
09/09	Corsa 1.2 Life A/C 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags, A/C Choice of Colours			£8,395
08/08	Corsa Club 1.2 16v 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags Silver Under 27K			£6,795
08/58	Corsa 1.4Design 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags E/Front windows, Automatic lights, A/C Silver Under 15K			£8,995
08/08	Corsa 1.2 Life A/C 3dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags, A/C Silver Under 17K			£7,495
08/58	Corsa Design 1.4 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags, E/Front windows, Auto lights, A/C Black Under 12K			£9,795
08/08	Corsa 1.4 Design 5dr H/B CD, Remote CDL, ABS, Airbags, E/Front windows, Auto lights, A/C Silver Under 10k			£9,795
07/57	Tigra 1.4 Exclusive C.D, A/C, Alloys Antiqua Blue Under 23 K			£10,495
08/08	Astra 1.8 Design Twin Top CD, MP3, ABS, Alloys, A/C, Sports Seats, Black Sapphire Under 14K			£12,395
08/58	Astra 1.8 Design Twin Top CD, MP3, ABS, Alloys, A/C, Sports Seats, Star Silver Under 17K			£13,595
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08/08	Astra 1.8 Sri Sport Hatch C.D, A/C, ABS, E/Front Windows, sports seats Black Sapphire Under 27K			£10,395
08/08	Astra 1.8 Sri Sport Hatch XP C.D, A/C, ABS, E/Front Windows, sports seats Star silver Under 26K			£10,995
08/58	Astra 1.9 150ps Design 5dr H/B Part leather, A/C E/front and rear windows Metro Blue Demo Please Call			£12,995
08/08	Astra 1.9 150PS Sri Sport Hatch XP C.D, A/C, ABS, E/Front Windows, sports seats Black Sapphire Under 28K			£12,995
08/58	Astra 1.6 Club 5dr Estate C.D, A/C, ABS, E/Front Windows Black Sapphire Under 13K			£10,495
09/09	Meriva 1.3 CDTI Active Tinted Windows, Leather steering Wheel, C.D, A/C, Black Sapphire			£11,495
06/56	Meriva 1.7 CDTI Active Tinted Windows, Leather steering Wheel, C.D, A/C, Metro Blue Under 26K			£6,995
07/57	Meriva 1.4 Life 5dr MPV C D ABS, Remote CDL Star Silver Under 10K			£6,995
09/09	Meriva 1.4 Life 5dr MPV C D ABS, Remote CDL Black Sapphire			£8,995
08/08	Zafira 1.8 Design C.D, A/C, E/Front Windows, Seven Seats Part Leather Star silver Under 28K			£10,495
03/53	Zafira 1.6 Club A/C C.D, A/C, E/Front Windows, Seven Seats Star Silver Under 47K			£4,995
09/59	Zafira 1.6 Active + C.D, A/C, E/Front and rear windows, Soverign silver Under 200 miles			£13,995
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09/58	Insignia 2.0 SE CDTi 160 PS 5dr H/B, Too much spec to list please call Black Sapphire Under 13K			£16,995
09/58	Insignia 1.8 Exclusive 5dr H/B + Pack C.D, A/C, Alloy wheels, Front Fog Lights Star Silver Under 16K			£12,995
09/58	Insignia 1.8 SRi 5dr H/B Sports Seats, Alloys, C.D, Electric Front And Rear Windows Black Sapphire Under 12K			£13,995

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08/58	Aveo 1.4 LT 5dr H/B C.D, MP3, A/C, Electric windows, Alloys, fog lights, Silver, Under 11K			£6,495
09/09	Aveo 1.4 LT 5dr H/B Auto C.D, MP3, A/C, Electric windows, Alloys, fog lights, Yellow Under 5K			£7,495
09/09	Aveo 1.2 S 3dr H/B C.D, MP3, E/Front windows, A/C, Silver, Under 3K			£5,695
09/09	Aveo 1.2 LS 5dr H/B C.D, MP3, Electric windows, A/C, Blue			£6,995
09/59	Matiz 0.8SE Automatic 5dr H/B C.D Electric Front windows PAS, Black			POA
09/09	Chevrolet Matiz 1.0 SE 5dr H/B C.D Electric Front windows PAS A/C, Silver			£5,995
05/55	Matiz 1.0 SE 5dr H/B C.D Electric Front windows PAS, Jazz Blue, Under 32K			£3,995

Other Makes Selection

05/55	Ford Fiesta Style 5dr H/B C.D, A/C, Remote CDL, Automatic, Red, Under 34K	£4,875
05/05	Renault Clio Extreme C.D, A/C, Remote CDL, Silver, Under 26K	£4,595

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Cruze 1.6 S 4dr: Urban - 31.4 (9.0), Extra-urban - 51.4 (5.5), Combined - 41.5 (6.8). CO_2 emissions 159g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO_2 emissions 119g/km.

Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350, Cruze £400). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price at time of publication and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press.

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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 207 range are: Urban 28.5–49.5 (9.9–5.7), Extra Urban 49.5–76.3 (5.7–3.7), Combined 39.2–64.1 (7.2–4.4) and CO_2 117–171 (G/KM) and the 107 range are: Urban 51.3 (5.5), Extra Urban 68.8–72.4 (4.1–3.9), Combined 61.4–62.7 (4.6–4.5) and CO_2 106–107 (G/KM).

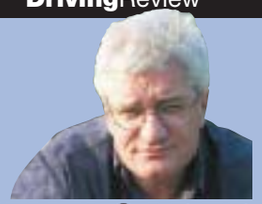






Yeti 'find' can cash in on

DrivingReview



by STEVE LOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

SkodaYeti

HAVING steered a modest course since revival with VW at the tiller, Skoda has headed off into the rough stuff with the new Yeti.

Of course, it's smart marketing to name a rugged looking SUV (Sports Utility Vehicle) after the fabled abominable snowman of the Himalayas, but the label also underlines how Skoda has yomped out of its comfort zone.

It was probably not meant to be like that; when the Yeti concept was unveiled in 2005, the SUV sector was hot property and Skoda could see lucrative possibilities.

But fast forward to the recent Yeti launch in the face of recession and environmental worries that have bogged down SUV sales and you wonder if the Czech marque has made the first false step of its modern era.

And the existing model line-up fitted a conservative consumer that has made Skoda one of the best brands for customer satisfaction, but are they Yeti buyers?

Those needing a wheeled holdall were already well catered for by the clever Roomster mini-MPV. It's cheaper, roughly the same length as its new sister and you can even buy a rugged Scout version, though it comes with front-wheel drive only.

But then Skoda expects most Yeti sales (from £13,775) to be the same format rather than the full 4x4 versions also available, starting at £17,220.

It sounds like the Yeti could be as rarely seen as its namesake though and Skoda itself predicts a modest 3,000 sales for 2010.

On the other hand, it reckons there are many Yeti conquest customers out there, ranging from family hatchback and small MPV buyers looking for something different, through to smooth, but pricey 'soft-roaders' like the Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V and chunkier SUVs like the Suzuki Grand Vitara.

But the real target is the new 'crossover' SUV/MPV sector identified by Nissan with the Qashqai, attracting new customers and transforming that marque's image at a stroke.

If Skoda can 'do a Nissan' then it can bin that modest 2010 forecast.

The five-door Yeti is more upright in design than the Qashqai, but looks classy and robust and the mainstay engine options are VW 2.0-litre diesels of 110, 140 and 170bhp output, with the 110 expected to be the biggest seller and the latter pair confined to the 4x4 format.

The entry option is a turbocharged 105bhp 1.2-litre petrol model that makes up for small capacity with consequent lower weight and lots of urge and modest consumption.

The one to avoid is the 160bhp 1.8-litre petrol engine fitted to the 4x4 tested here; it's a great drive with plenty of go and refinement, but thirsty in comparison to the diesels.

It is hard to fault with the Yeti otherwise. As you would demand from a car that might need



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Qashqai's appeal

to go off-road, the cabin utters not a creak of poor construction or quality.

The interior is nicely understated and typically well-organised and equipped for the money with clever storage such as the collapsible boot bin. The cloth upholstery is a bit drab – leather seating is available and would be the icing on the cake – but ride and comfort is high. Even the rear seats rake for extra lounging appeal or accommodation of a child seat.

They are also split into three and can be tumbled and arranged to the heart's content or even removed individually for varied and ultimate load capacity.

The Yeti delivers excellent on-road composure too; from the high 'command' driving position you get a great view without the cornering lean suffered by many lofty vehicles. So, the Qashqai faces its toughest competition yet and in a style that offers a genuine alternative.

• ***For on and off-road videos of the new Yeti go to Motors TV at www.carsforkent.co.uk.***



DrivingPortfolio

SKODA YETI 1.8 SE £18,910

Driving appeal	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★
Road tax	£215/year
Best rival	Nissan Qashqai

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the thirst of the 1.8-litre petrol model

NOT SURE: it is what current Skoda customers wanted

REALLY LIKE: the quality, competence and under-stated style of this brave new Skoda product

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Model shown is Yeti S 1.2 TSI 105bhp at £14,675 RRP, including optional metallic paint at £400 RRP. Prices are accurate at time of print.
Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Škoda Range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 38.2 (7.4) – 83.1 (3.4), Combined 28.0 (10.1) – 68.9 (4.1). CO_2 emissions for the Škoda Range 109 – 235g/km.

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2005 05	SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance contro £7,295
2002 52	SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 69,000 miles, Steel Grey. ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted glass. £5,495
2001 Y	SAAB 9-3 2.2 TiD SE , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 122,000 miles, Metallic blue, 2 Owners. Rear wiper, ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Front head restraints, Front fog lights, Central locking, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Foglights, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Full Service History, Alarm, Climate Control, Cloth upholstery, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, Rear armrest, PAS, Child locks, Service indicator. Insurance Group: 12 £3,295

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159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, silver over 4000 cars in group stock, 10512 miles, £15500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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BRERA, COUPE 2.4JTD, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking, red, 14215 miles, £18000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDM SV, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, touring grey metallic, 16200 miles, £17000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRERA, COUPE 2.4JTD, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking, red, 14215 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDM SV, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, touring grey metallic, 16200 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRERA, COUPE 2.4JTD, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking, red, 14215 miles, £18000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDM SV, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, touring grey metallic, 16200 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

AUDI

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior load liner power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior load liner power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 T FSE SE 4dr, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, grey, 60000 miles, £9075, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, S LINE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags xenon headlamps curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking auto headlights and wipers, grey, 15000 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 T FSE SE 4dr, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, grey, 60000 miles, £9075, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)
AUDI

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior load liner power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior load liner power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 T FSE SE 4dr, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, grey, 60000 miles, £9075, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, S LINE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags xenon headlamps curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking auto headlights and wipers, grey, 15000 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 T FSE SE 4dr, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, grey, 60000 miles, £9075, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FORD

MONDEO, ZETEC 2.0 5DR HATCHBACK, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass traction control twin airbags curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, grey, 4123 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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MONDEO, 2.5, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £25000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.5, 2008, red, 55 miles, £25000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 130 Zetec (6), 2005, non standard colour, 44000 miles, £7199, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium X Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation sports seats sun roof tinted glass traction control trip computer xenon headlamps remote central locking, moondust silver, 6252 miles, £20000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium X Sport 2.0 litre TD, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multi cd player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation sun roof traction control trip computer remote central locking, panther black, 5538 miles, £19200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCI ZETEC, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights metallic paint power steering tinted glass trip computer, sea grey, 25650 miles, £11500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium X 2.0 litre, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multi cd player power multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation tinted glass traction control trip computer remote central locking, thunder grey, 7268 miles, £16500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium X Sport 2.0 Litre T, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multi cd player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer remote central locking, panther black, 5927 miles, £19000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multi cd player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation sun roof traction control trip computer remote central locking, silver, 2180 miles, £17500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Zetec 2.0 litre TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, thunder grey, 14044 miles, £13500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, TITANIUM X, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multi cd player power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass traction control curtain airbags remote central locking auto headlights and wipers multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, hypnotic silver, 6970 miles, £17500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium (200 2.0 Duratorq TDCi 140ps (, 2009, grey, 9621 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0l 16v 145, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, blue, 56462 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium, 2009, metallic moondust silver, 6694 miles, £18956, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 8798 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Titanium, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, ink blue, 12014 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 EDGE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, over 4000 cars in group stock, 33001 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, TITANIUM X TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint multi cd player power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation split folding rear seats tinted glass traction control trip computer xenon headlamps curtain airbags remote central locking auto headlights and wipers quickclear windscreen roof bars remote audio controls, moondust silver, 5162 miles, £19000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, TDCi Titanium X, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, silver, 9359 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 3.0 V6 TITANIUM X, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows mp3 player multi cd player leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking, metallic blue, 47817 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

1007, 1.6 SPORT, 2007, alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, red, 9700 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1007, Dolce, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic blue, 13000 miles, £4500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1007, 1.4 dolce 3dr, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer, yellow, 43000 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1007, 1.4 dolce 3dr, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer, yellow, 43000 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1007, 1.6 SPORT, 2007, alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, red, 9700 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1007, Dolce, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic blue, 13000 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1007, 1.6 SPORT, 2007, alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, red, 9700 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1007, 1.4 dolce 3dr, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer, yellow, 43000 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1007, Dolce, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic blue, 13000 miles, £4500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

107, 1.0 sport 3dr, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag power steering trip computer, black, 6000 miles, £6600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

107, URBAN LITE, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag immobiliser power steering tinted glass twin airbags, yellow, 39721 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

107, 107 Urban, 2006, central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, silver, 26342 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

107, 1.0 URBAN MOVE, 2008, central locking electric windows metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, silver, 4700 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

107, 1.0 sport 3dr, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag power steering trip computer, black, 6000 miles, £6600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

107, 107 Urban, 2006, central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, silver, 26342 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

107, 1.0 sport 3dr, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag power steering trip computer, black, 6000 miles, £6600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

107, 107 Urban, 2006, central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, silver, 26342 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

107, URBAN LITE, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag immobiliser power steering tinted glass twin airbags, yellow, 39721 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

107, Urban 3dr, lv58ysy, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, stereo, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, stability control, automatic electric windows, radio, mp3 player, head restraints, rear armrest, cloth upholstery, isofix, full size spare wheel, tinted glass, height adjustable steering wheel, locking fuel filler cap, 4 speed heater fan, front seatbelt pretensioners with force limiters, lights on warning, body coloured door mirrors, pas speed related, digital clock, glovebox, front door bins, under steering wheel storage, 50/50 split folding rear seat, car location device via plip key, black side rubbing strips, boot carpet, centre console storage, two 3 point rear seatbelts, 1 plip, 1 standard key, driver/passenger sunvisors and vanity mirrors, remote headlamp adjustment from fascia, body colour front/rear bumper aprons, front courtesy lights, luggage cover, cd storage in centre console, reclining, tilting front seats, 14'' steel wheels, body colour door handles, illuminated heater controls, oil level indicator, internally adjustable door mirrors, rear storage bins, speedo with digital odometer/digital trip recorder, handbrake/brake fluid warning light, driver seatbelt warning indicator, single 2 speed front intermittent wiper, side impact absorbent door protection, chromed front bumper, 12v accessory socket, clear polycarbonate headlight lenses, fixed rear side window, cupholders in centre console, coolant temperature indicator, circular air vents, dashboard storage, rigid removable luggage cover, 2 rear number plate illumination lights, red, 2000 miles, £7995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

SMART

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FORTWO, Pulse 2 dr Auto, 2008, abs brakes automatic transmission cd player central locking immobiliser power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, black, 3000 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FORTWO, PASSION, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering single cd player twin airbags panoramic sunroof remote central locking, black, 4273 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FORTWO, PASSION, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering single cd player twin airbags panoramic sunroof remote central locking, black, 4273 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FORTWO, Pulse 2 dr Auto, 2008, abs brakes automatic transmission cd player central locking immobiliser power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, black, 3000 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FORTWO, Pulse 2 dr Auto, 2008, abs brakes automatic transmission cd player central locking immobiliser power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, black, 3000 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FORTWO, PASSION, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission locking, black, 4273 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

AGILA, Design 1229cc 5 door, 2009, new cd player central locking driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, moroccan blue, 2200 miles, £8295, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

AGILA, Design 1229cc 5 door, 5 speed auto, 2009, cd player air conditioning alloy wheels central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, sugar white, 2290 miles, £9695, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

AGILA, Expression 998cc 5 door, 2005, cd player central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check, star silver, 24800 miles, £3695, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

AGILA, Club 1229cc 5 door, air conditioning, 2008, cd player air conditioning central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, star silver, 4850 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

AGILA, Design 1229cc 5 door, 2009, cd player central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, lemon grass, 4150 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

AGILA, Expression, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking full service history immobiliser power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer, blue, 29000 miles, £3800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

AGILA, Design, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags , blue, 46627 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

AGILA, Expression, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking full service history immobiliser power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer, blue, 29000 miles, £3800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AGILA, Design, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking, blue, 46627 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AGILA, Expression, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking full service history immobiliser power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer, blue, 29000 miles, £3800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AGILA, Design, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player electric windows front fog lights, blue, 46627 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AGILA CDTi, 2009, cd player central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, atlanta blue, 6230 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

AGILA CDTi, 2009, cd player central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, star silver, 5210 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

ANTARA, CDTi E, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player diesel electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass trip computer remote central locking, black, 18456 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ANTARA, CDTi E, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player diesel electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass trip computer remote central locking, blue, 18456 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ANTARA, SRI CDTI 120, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, moonland, 16400 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ANTARA, SRI CDTI 120, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, black sapphire, 16600 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ANTARA, Design, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, metro blue, 21000 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ANTARA, Life CDTI, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, star silver, 22800 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ASTRA, Elite CDTI, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering single cd player sliding rear seats split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic silver, 22000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ASTRA, SXI 5DR, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, silver, 28500 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ASTRA, Design CDTI 120, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic beige, 22000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ASTRA, Design CDTI 120, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic silver, 15000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 16V Sport (103), 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows multiple airbags power steering, black, 44821 miles, £5500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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Getting back to the land aim of Super Showcase

By **ANDY ROGERS**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IN AN era of recession and the rise of the 'staycation' – holidaying at home – rural businesses are being urged to back and benefit from a pioneering tourism campaign.

Countryside 2010 aims to encourage more local people and visitors to enjoy the rural pleasures of Kent and the South East.

It has been launched with plans to stage a two-week Super Showcase taster of events, activities and attractions, from May 29 to June 13. If successful, it could provide a blueprint for nationwide schemes.

The initiative comes from the Rural Ways Partnership, co-ordinated by Tourism South East with funding from the Rural Development Programme for England. Ordnance Survey is providing further sponsorship.

But Tourism South East official Rachel Simpson said it will rely on a team effort.

"Countryside 2010 offers rural businesses, groups and communities in Kent a unique and free opportunity to attract new interest, new business, new visitors, new members or new volunteers," she said. "Our countryside offers a huge variety of things to enjoy, but people can't join in unless they know what's out there. Countryside 2010 provides joined-up thinking for businesses and organisers to get together and show us who they are and what they do."

The National Trust, RSPB, Cycle Touring Club, British Horse Society, Ramblers' Association and wildlife trusts are also pitching in. The programme is expected to include guided walks and rides, tours and tastings, open days and activity sessions and everything from birdwatching to boat rides and paragliding to pub walks. But organisers are stressing rural businesses and organisations must be proactive, before the Super Showcase can start to be promoted.

Those who meet campaign criteria can add entries to the Countryside 2010 programme free at www.Countryside2010.org.uk.





CHERRY NICE: Brogdale Farm, Faversham, home to the National Fruit Collection, left, and Pines Gardens, at Pines Calyx, St Margaret's Bay, near Dover, are among Kent's attractions

Our fast track to recovery on HS1 network

HIGH-speed trains have been on passenger trials in Kent since June, but the official launch this weekend is a major plus for the county's business credentials.

The new £5.8 billion HS1 network puts Kent companies and commuters within an hour of London, even if based as far away as Canterbury and Folkestone, while the county's boom town of Ashford is just 37 minutes away.

It could not be better timed as the county seeks to gain from signs it is weathering the recession.

The 140mph trains are expected to boost job creation, company relocation, property prices and the county economy in general thanks to better links with London, the rest of the UK and the Continent. Mandy Bearne of Locate in Kent said the county may have been seen as peripheral to London before: "Now we can say it most definitely is not."

Christian Miles, a partner at estate agent Miles and Barr, expected a boost to property prices, particularly in places where they have lagged, such as Thanet and Folkestone.

"Areas close to stations have held value better because of the awareness of the rail link, and that's only going to increase as time goes by," he said.

The London terminus is St Pancras, with Ebbsfleet acting as the Kent hub before the network describes a loop serving the north of the county including Medway in one direction and Ashford and Canterbury in the other. A spur from Ashford – the depot for the system – also serves Folkestone and Dover.

The most glaring omission from the network is Maidstone, but KCC has revealed plans to build a new HS1 station there.

COMMENT

BUSINESSES in Kent waited in vain this week for dramatic help from the Government's Pre-Budget Report as they battle to outlast the recession, ***writes business editor ANDY ROGERS.***

General reaction has been 'it could have been worse, but we really wanted more help', although Chancellor Alistair Darling at least reinforced hopes that he expected the economy to be back in growth for the last quarter 2009 and grow by up to 1.5 per cent in 2010.

There was distraction by PR fluff such as the one-off tax of 50 per cent on bankers' bonuses. Those lower down the salary scale may be pleased to see retribution against City fat cats, but it won't do much to accelerate recovery.

Mr Darling also shied away from public spending cuts ahead of next year's election, even though the entire country seems to recognise that something must be done – one commentator at accountancy giant KPMG described the Chancellor's PBR weapon of choice as "a butter knife rather than an axe".

Confidence

But there was some devil in the detail for Kent's business community, with Mr Darling sticking to a scripted return to 17.5 per cent VAT from the 15 per cent emergency rate – a New Year cold shower for consumer spending and commercial sourcing just as companies regain confidence.

On the other hand, the Chancellor pledged to continue allowing firms to apply to defer tax payments in cases of proven difficulty and he also mothballed proposals to increase small companies tax – it remains at 21 per cent until April, 2011.

Some companies may also benefit from extra staff without financial risk after PBR measures to find work for long-term unemployed and the introduction of funded 'internships' for undergraduates.

And the plumbing and heating sector will be pleased by Government plans to inject a further £200m nationally into the Warm Front scheme to improve home heating efficiency.

It has introduced a version of its car Scrappage scheme (homeowners can apply for help to replace inefficient boilers) and tax rebates for installation of wind turbines and solar panels.



First-rate support is straight to the point



WINNING SMILE: Diane McInnis, left, and Lorraine Grover of Basepoint, with their KOS Media Business Challenge Award

COMPANIES need all the help they can get during a recession – exactly the sort of help on offer at a Kent business park that triumphed at the KOS Media £1 Million Business Challenge Awards.

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

Basepoint Folkestone, based at the coastal town's Shearway Business Park, scooped the prestigious Service Award.

Centre manager Lorraine Grover and colleague Diane McInnis received the trophy and nearly £100,000 of media and marketing support at Marriott Tudor Park Hotel and Country Club in Bearsted, near Maidstone.

Basepoint offers support and accommodation to new and small businesses with on-site facilities, including high-speed internet access, free parking and a café.

Clients have the choice of a small unit for one to two people or larger units for established businesses, all located at the business park.

The centre is home to more than 50 licensees and the award judges were impressed by Basepoint's high level of customer focus and outstanding service. They also praised how it fostered a sense of community. Ms Grover was delighted with the commendation. "It demonstrates how committed we are to supporting businesses within our centre," she said.

"We offer a real sense of community to our licensees, who range from start-up businesses to established medium-sized companies, providing them with support, regular centre events and ensuring that we respond to queries quickly and efficiently.

"We're excited about the opportunity winning this award will bring in raising our profile and will endeavour to continue our success and commitment to Kent businesses."

The management team deal with client inquiries on everything from specific business issues to where they can buy office furniture.

Many applications for space at Basepoint's 26 centres across the South and the Midlands come from referrals by licensees, with many stating they would not have thrived had it not been for their helpful 'landlord'.



AT THE HUB: Folkestone Enterprise Centre at Shearway Business Park

Gary Smith, MD at insurance application consultants ORIAC Solutions, said business had grown since being based at the centre.

"We have moved to a larger unit three times. The transition between units was made painless due to Basepoint's flexible contract arrangements and the efficiency of their management team."

Premiere Occupational Healthcare was one of the first businesses on site after the centre was built at Shearway in 2002.

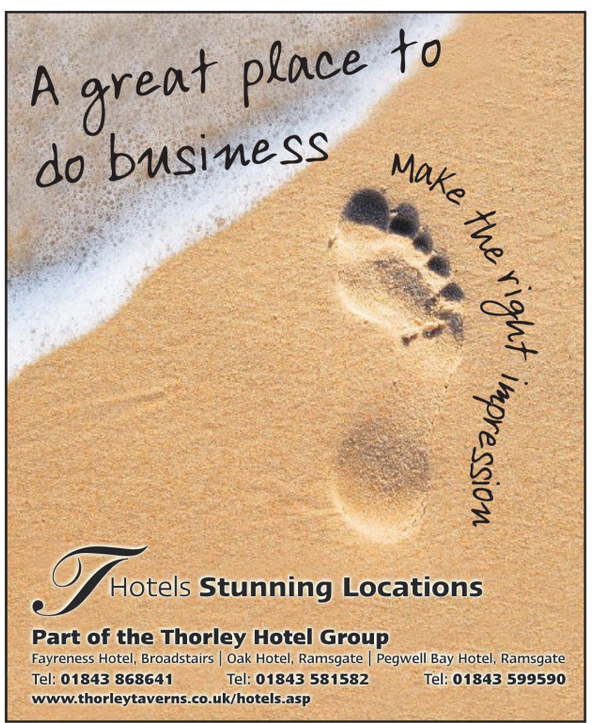
A company official said: "We firmly believe that without the opportunities and benefits afforded to us by Basepoint we might not be in the successful position that we find ourselves today."



To view, search 'Basepoint'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk



Diane and Lorraine accept the Service Award from Paul Dungate of Brachers Solicitors



On-tree-preneurs get top listing

HUSBAND and wife team Tristram and Rebecca Mayhew have seen their unusual business hit the heights since launching in 2002.

And the high-wire forest adventure company Go Ape! – which runs courses at Kent's Leeds Castle and Bedgebury Forest – has now been listed for the second year running in The Sunday Times Virgin Fast Track 100 company league table.

Featured at 82, this marks it as one of the UK's fastest growing private companies, despite the recession – it averaged more than 60 per cent sales growth from 2005 until hitting the £8.5 million mark last year.

The latest win follows on from the Santander Small to Medium Size Business of the Year accolade at the National Business Awards 2009.

Go Ape! invites people to "live adventurously" through 22 treetop adventure courses and employs some 350 staff.

Mr Mayhew said: "Rebecca and I created Go Ape! as a lifestyle adventure rather than as a business. We aspired to be on-tree-preneurs rather than entrepreneurs.

"But it was a total surprise to us how much of an adventure growing a business can be. We love what we do and would encourage anyone who has a yearning to step out on their own to just do it.

"Taking that first step is the hardest. Now is always the right time to start, and if you can secure backing and make a venture work in tough economic conditions, then it can only be easier when the economy improves.

"Don't be one of those who looks back in years to come regretting that they never gave their dream a go."



HIGH WIRE: Tristram and Rebecca Mayhew of Go Ape!

Scents and historic sensibility

By JAMES ALEXANDRE
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

KNOWN as the 'Indiana Jones of the perfume world', David Pybus is on a mission to bring fragrances of the past back to life.

David, 62, who won £80,000 backing from investors Peter Jones and Theo Paphitis when he appeared on TV's Dragons' Den, was inspired to capture and recreate historic essences while on his travels across the globe.

The alluring scent of the Egyptian queen Cleopatra, the aroma of the lost city of Pompeii and the mysticism of the Mayans are just some of the delights offered by his company Scents of Time. The modern-day alchemist and aromancer is based at Sandgate, near Folkestone, and has worked in the perfume industry for more than 30 years.



INSPIRATION: The Scents of Time range taps into 4,000 years of history to recreate its evocative fragrances

He said his collection was inspired by his combined love of "fragrance, travel, science, archaeology and history".

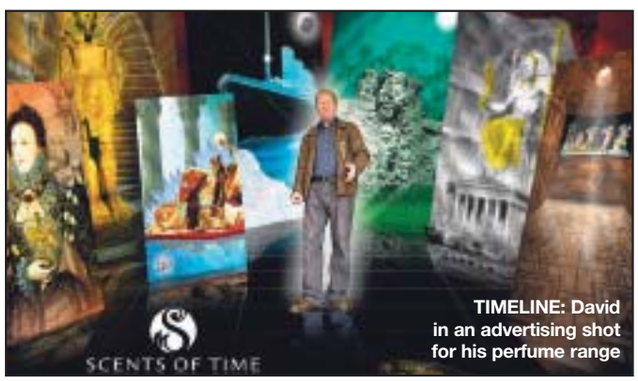
He said: "Basically, it has to have a story and a history, and preferably be linked to a globally known figure or event, such as Tutankhamen or the Titanic and the like.

"Then we put together what we've found using either formula or samples or scientific reconstruction, to make it into a fragrance which will work well in the modern age."

The scent of the blue lotus flower was used for the Cleopatra-inspired Nenufar fragrance as it was considered sacred by the pharaohs. Floral, herbal and spice spores in a preserved perfumer's garden in Pompeii make up Pixis, while a rare incense formula found in the Nile helped recreate the Tutankhamen-associated Ankh.

Mr Pybus, who studied chemistry at Nottingham University and has written books on the subject, said of his appearance before the Dragons three years ago: "It was a very long day, an emotional experience.

"Dragons' Den is very much like Christians thrown to the lions. I guess it makes good television. The fact I am a professional presenter helped – at least I wasn't speechless.



TIMELINE: David in an advertising shot for his perfume range

"I was very pleased to get a deal with Peter Jones and Theo Paphitis, whom I thought could really help me move the business."

He was on the same show as Levi Roots, whose family recipe Reggae Reggae sauce has made it on to supermarket shelves nationwide.

"Levi played his Reggae Reggae calypso to me first – while practising – and we got on really well together.

"He has gone on to have a £12 million business, but I think I've got the hottest bottle around."

The latest in the range to be launched is the Titanic-inspired Night Star, composed of the periodic elements hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen and carbon. Mr Pybus was inspired to set up Scents of Time when he heard a bag of perfumes was salvaged from the Titanic's wreck and many were intact.

However, out of respect for what happened on that fateful night in 1912 it was decided instead to use universal materials and focus on the future, looking to the next century.

He said: "The timeline goes from 1500BC to 2150AD, so we have 4,000 years of fragrances and more to come, hopefully one every year.

"Next year I'm doing the anointing oil of the kings and queens of Europe and, after that an Olympic fragrance ready for the Games in 2012. So, as they say, you ain't smelt nothing yet."



LOT OF BOTTLE: David Pybus impressed on TV's Dragons' Den

SUPERMARKET giant Tesco has opened a pioneering store near Maidstone, but shoppers can never darken its doors.

Nevertheless, the Aylesford site is laid out just like a normal store and used by Tesco staff pushing trolleys as they 'pick' purchases for the chain's growing number of online shoppers. It is one of two new 'dark stores' – as the grocery trade calls them – and Tesco plans to use these as prototypes for a series, opening at least one a year until 2014 when they are expected to have claimed a sixth of its total online business. The choice of Aylesford seems to underline perceptions that households in Kent and the South East generally – the other new dark store is at Croydon – have been quicker to embrace online grocery shopping.

Tesco receives 475,000 online orders and 3.4 million visitors weekly at its Tesco.com website, with goods delivered by a fleet of 2,000 vans. The new dark store at Aylesford store takes 8,000 orders weekly and has a staff of 500.

Two more 99p links in growing chain

BARGAIN-hunting Kent shoppers have been praised by the boss of the 99p Store chain ahead of opening two more outlets in the county next week.

Hussein Lalani said: "Kent is the best place in Britain for us, because people know a bargain when they see one."

Both new stores – in Folkestone and Bromley – are former Woolworths town centre outlets and are creating about 30 jobs each.

The company is feeding the bargain frenzy with Christmas offers and appearances by Santa and, based on other openings across the UK including a recent one at Ashford, said queuing could start as early as midnight for the new stores' first openings at 9am next day.

The new stores are the 125th and 126th UK 99p Stores.

The company was founded in 2001 and has averaged two openings a week lately and 50 so far this year – mostly ex-Woolies stores – and is eyeing other Kent sites.

99p stores quality products under a pound!

Co-founder and commercial director Mr Lalani suggested the company had not only taken over many Woolies sites but also the bankrupted chain's position in the public's affection.

"Woolworths started out as a sixpenny shop with everything at one price; we are the 21st century version," he said. "We feel proud to take over the mantle and consider ourselves custodians of the Woolworths brand."

By the end of next year 99p Stores expects to have more than 200 UK outlets managed from a base in Northants. It employs more than 3,000 people.



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Record results posted by GSE

RECORD results have been posted by the Ashford-based GSE construction group, with profits rising 26 per cent to £2.4 million.

The group, which employs 260 people across Kent, saw turnover grow by 6.4 per cent to £37m for the year ending December, 2008.

Turnover is now four times that of GSE's launch year in 2000 and it now has divisions specialising in design and build, civil engineering, land remediation/reclamation, haulage and plant hire – the latter now has a modern fleet worth £8m.

Turnover

The 2008 results were largely driven by GSE Building and Civil Engineering where turnover stayed stable at £14m, but pre-tax profits rose, while GSE Design and Build increased turnover by 70 per cent to £22m and pushed profits up significantly.

"These record-breaking results reflect the hard work put in across all our divisions," said group chairman Darrell Healey.

"It was important to record a strong performance in 2008 to put us in a position to weather what we all know to have been a tougher year for the construction industry in 2009.

"A lot of our success can be attributed to the fact that, across our divisions, we have expertise in all areas of construction and our different companies can often support each other on their projects.

"It's a very sustainable business model."

Getting an edge on 'milk round'

QUITTING a job in the City at the height of a recession might seem like madness, but Christina Breaden saw a window of business opportunity, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

She reckoned that this was the economic climate when school leavers, students and recent graduates needed most help with job applications. Having twice successfully negotiated the graduate 'milk round' herself and been involved with graduate recruitment at her last employer, her mind was made up after younger sister Ann-Louise's asked for advice on her own applications.

Her sister's friends then also started clamouring for help, so Horsmonden-based Christina realised she was onto something and the chance to fulfil a dream to run her own business.

She set up Idiom Edge in October, to target a gap in the market helping those with limited or no previous work experience to perform well at interviews and assessment centres, and create a strong CV based on academic and extra-curricular achievements.

The soundness of the idea has already been recognised by a major young entrepreneur scheme: she was second in the recent Shell Livewire Competition, also landing a £500 cash prize, which she is ploughing back into IdiomEdge, which uses the strapline 'Get the Edge. Get the Offer'.

"The prize money will enable upgrades to be made to the website," said Christina.

"I want to update the site with case studies of successes, client testimonials and more interactive and informative features.

"These are changes I believe will encourage more graduates to use the services we offer.

"Graduates are finding it really tough out there. Not only are there more graduates and fewer jobs than in recent years, but the increased pressure on careers services as a result of the higher demand they are facing means that graduates are receiving less time than they need, particularly focused, individual time.

"As such they really don't know how to put together all aspects of a strong application.

"This is shown in the quality of applications recruiters are receiving. One recently reported that only seven per cent of applications they received included covering letters that were well written and tailored to the specific role.

"Many individuals undersell themselves as they don't realise the value of the experiences they do have. If you played in a sports team or worked on stage design for a school play then you have demonstrated certain skills that employers are looking for – you just need to learn the best way of demonstrating these through your CV and at an interview."



ON THE EDGE: Christina Breaden is helping graduates negotiate the recruitment process

Christina hopes Idiom Edge can plug this gap and provide the additional help required to ensure graduates are putting their best foot forward during the application process.

"I have helped students and graduates with CVs, interviews, application forms and cover letters. Graduate assessment centres will soon be upon us and IdiomEdge will be there to provide graduates the opportunity to learn what to expect, practice exercises and receive feedback before the real thing."



Fired up by their potty idea



CRAVING a move to Thanet and the chance to start their own business really did drive Stuart and Teresa Illsley a bit 'potty'.

It led to the opening of Pick 'n' Paint a Pot in Northdown Road, Cliftonville – customers pick an item of pottery, which can painted, glazed and fired onsite for a bespoke creation.

Stuart said: "We've wanted to live in the area for some time and last summer while considering a move to east Kent and looking at properties, we hit upon the idea of buying a shop with flat above rather than a house.

"The shop was in a poor state, having been empty for some time. Most of the decorating we've done ourselves. It's taken a little longer but we've saved a good deal of money and enjoyed working on the project together.

"We've never run a shop before – my wife is a teacher and I'm a salesman – so it's been a steep learning curve."

Teresa said: "Our studio is simply a place to come and be creative, painting your own designs on to ready made ceramic pieces such as mugs and plates.

"People are free to walk in and start painting, but with space to accommodate more than 20, we also cater for groups, children's parties and schools."

In aggregate, a good waste of a road

ONE of the most eco-friendly roads in the country has been laid by Kent-based highways specialist FM Conway.

The new surface uses about 95 per cent recycled material and covers 700 metres of carriageway in Wimbledon, in the London Borough of Merton. FM Conway has its head office in Dartford and specialises in wet waste and aggregates recycling. MD Michael Conway said: "Contractors and manufacturers are working hard to offer authorities an environmentally-friendly approach to projects of this nature and ensure they address carbon footprint responsibilities."

Visionary tips from Caan of Dragons' Den

DRAGONS' Den entrepreneur James Caan is the guest speaker at next year's Kent 2020 Vision event.

Mr Caan is well-placed to pass on top tips for success to the Kent business community attending 2020 Vision on Thursday, April 22 – he and several other successful UK entrepreneurs sit in judgement as business wannabes pitch their ideas on the highly successful BBC television show.



JAMES CAAN: Guest speaker

He started his own rise to the top by founding a recruitment company in his 20s, which went on to be worth £130 million.

Mr Caan is now CEO of private equity firm Hamilton Bradshaw, with a combined turnover of more than £400m.

Carole Black, events manager of 2020 operator Business Link, said: "Having someone as successful as James Caan as our speaker is very exciting as he really is an inspirational figure in terms of his business achievements.

"Would-be entrepreneurs should make the most of this fantastic opportunity by booking a free place to attend."

Engineer heading team on compact Save-Fuel system

TECHNOLOGY aimed at cutting motoring fuel costs and emissions has been boosted by a new appointment at Canterbury-based Oil Drum.

The firm produces the Save-Fuel system, a compact unit attached to a truck or bus and driven by the vehicle's own power source. The retro-fit device reduces fuel consumption by producing and adding hydrogen before combustion to enhance efficiency.

This can cut fuel consumption by more than 10 per cent and reduce CO2 and hydrocarbon emissions to zero – a powerful tool in the battle against greenhouse gases and global warming.

The company now wants to miniaturise the system for cars and has appointed Gert De Kock, 29, to head the research team.

"The current version of the Save-Fuel system runs on a 24-volt system and when you come to fit it to HGVs, coaches or buses you have plenty of room to work with," he said.

"To be fitted to light vans and cars the system will have to work on 12 volts and we will have much less room.

"We will need to redesign the unit so it can fit in smaller spaces and scaling down the components is going to be the biggest challenge."

A graduate in engineering, Gert studied at the University of Greenwich and at Canterbury College where he also won the prestigious High Sheriff's Award for his final year project on hydrogen technology.

Oil Drum aims to have a Save-Fuel prototype for cars available next year. MD Darryl Watts said: "The work Gert is leading is a crucial next step in the development of Save-Fuel and the business itself.

"The system has proved a great success on large commercial vehicles and we are determined to replicate that for the light commercial and car market."



GERT DE KOCK: modifying Save-Fuel system for smaller vehicles

Former RAF station's payload for Our Boys

A PLANE load of Christmas gifts has taken off from Kent International to deliver festive cheer to British troops serving in Afghanistan, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

The thousands of parcels on board came from donations to the Support Our Soldiers charity.

Matt Clarke, chief executive for the airport at Manston, said: "We're proud of this airport's earlier role as an RAF base and many of the people working here are ex-service personnel. Support for the Armed Forces runs deep.

"These parcels will help boost morale and we are delighted to be playing a role in ensuring they arrive in time for Christmas."

Another Kent airport has announced that it will launch a new service to Jersey starting next summer. CI Travel Group plans to use Lydd Airport to open the first air link from there to the island for almost 20 years.

It will run on Saturdays from July 10 to September 11 and target an estimated 750,000 people living within a 60-minute drive of the airport.

The service will use 50-seat Fokker aircraft operated by CityJet and sold under CI Travel's Airways Holidays, Discover Jersey and Channel Islands Travel Service brands.

The company expects to lure custom from Gatwick through Lydd's greater onsite convenience. Travellers can park for free on the Jersey service and walk just 50 metres to check-in. CI Travel has confirmed it will continue its weekly Saturday summer (May 29-September 11) service from Kent International to Jersey, also using 50-seaters.

CHATHAM-based Netsite is celebrating the launch of a new website it created to promote a Welsh tourist attraction.

Location owner UPM Tilhill commissioned www.coedllandegla.com to market picturesque mountain bike and walking trails in Coed Llandegla forest, but needed easy online updating by the attraction's own staff.

Marketing chief Ruth Roy said: "We were really pleased with the customer service and project management and the website was completed on time and on budget. The effort Netsite made to ensure the site looked and felt right far exceeded my expectations."

Netsite's clients include the NHS, Kent Fire and Rescue, Crewsaver and Chatham Historic Dockyard.

MICHELSON Diagnostics is celebrating the first sale of its new cancer VivoSight scanning system.

The Orpington firm developed the high-resolution imaging, taken up by a Japanese company, and is now regarded as a leader in applying the technology to the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of cancer.

Chief executive Jon Holmes said: "We launched VivoSight in August and have seen a massive increase in the rate of inquiries, which are running at about five a week. Signs are the product is starting to fulfil its global potential."

FIRMS are urged to ensure they comply with fire safety regulations. The call by the National Security Inspectorate (NSI) follows a record 40 prosecutions by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service against firms failing to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order, between October 2006 and October 2008.

UK fire services overall issued over 3,800 enforcement notices during the same period. The Fire Safety Order places responsibility on business owners to designate a 'responsible person' to carry out a fire risk assessment to identify potential hazards which should then be regularly reviewed. The responsible person is required to ensure fire protection measures, products and systems installed are fit for purpose, including fire detection and alarm systems.

THOSE who dream of running their own pub should seek expert help, especially when taking on a tenancy. Richard Horton, consultant on property law at Furley Page, said: "Pub chains want to trade profitably and might be tempted to ignore promises made in better times."

He also warned of rent review clauses worded in favour of the chain.

"If that dream of running an old thatched pub is still enticing, make sure you're armed with the facts," he added.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

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RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/01/2012 **OD:** £1,329

L&G FIRST ACTIVE
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/01/2012 **OD:** £1,029

MORTGAGE BOX
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.19% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/12/2011 **OD:** £1,529

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/03/2012 **OD:** £1,030

OTHER

NORTHERN ROCK
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 01/03/2012 **OD:** £1,030

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.69% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS **OD:** £1,030

COVENTRY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.59% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/12/2011 **OD:** £1,034

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 1.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS **OD:** £2,030

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PRUPROTECT	£33.52	PRUPROTECT	£66.42
AXA	£34.25	AXA	£67.40
LV=	£34.48	LV=	£69.09
COUPLE AGED 30		**COUPLE AGED 40**	
AVIVA	£41.34	AVIVA	£93.50
PRUPROTECT	£44.72	FRIENDS PRVDNT	£101.90
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£44.81	PRUPROTECT	£111.31
AXA	£46.00	SCOT PROVDNT	£111.36
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Timeline

KOS Media Sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 100 years

1909

100 YEARS AGO: IT'S a 750-mile round trip to Tunbridge Wells from Workington and if you tried to do the journey today it would take you a minimum of six-and-a-half hours by road or rail.

The draw for the fifth qualifying round of the FA Cup couldn't have been much harsher on the team from the Lancashire Combination, handing them an away tie to Tunbridge Wells Rangers, but if the journey affected them at all it wasn't reflected in the scoreline, a crushing 6-0 win for the visitors.

Their reward was a home tie with Manchester City in the first round proper.

The result meant New Brompton were the last remaining Kent side in the competition, having returned from Yorkshire with a 1-0 win at Rotherham Town.

Kent's only Football League side, Woolwich Arsenal, beat Tottenham 1-0 in Plumstead in a fixture that was already evolving into one of the game's fiercest rivalries.

1959

50 YEARS AGO: KENT were dealt a blow with the news that exciting young batting prospect Bob Minns would miss the entire 1960 season.

The 19-year-old had caught the eye with a series of impressive innings for Kings School Canterbury, but he decided to spend the following summer in Australia and his first-class career ended just 20 games and four years later, with seven 50s to his name and an average of 27.

Kent's Australian all-rounder John Pettiford, 40, was contemplating his future in the game after the county announced it would not be "re-engaging" him for the 1960 campaign. Pettiford, known as Jack, was also a Flying Officer with the Australian Air Force. He died just four years later.

1984

25 YEARS AGO: HARRY Redknapp confessed he thought his AFC Bournemouth side had been flattered by a 4-1 FA Cup second round replay win over Dartford.

The Cherries dominated the first-half, but a goal from Micky Dingwall meant the Darts trailed just 2-1 late in the second-half. On 79 minutes Terry Sullivan's shot was clawed off the line and two goals in the final five minutes killed Dartford off, to Redknapp's relief.

Strange as it may seem to connoisseurs of his beguiling ITV punditry, Andy Townsend was once one of the brightest midfield prospects in the country.

Townsend was sold for a then record £13,000 from Welling United to Weymouth and he was part of a Terras midfield that inflicted a 4-1 defeat on Maidstone United, their heaviest home loss in three seasons in the Gola league, a quarter of a century ago. Townsend – who was born in Maidstone – opened the scoring with a penalty and dominated the rest of the game with his central midfield partner, the future Sheffield United striker Tony Agana.

If you have any fascinating stories from the above years gone by, email them to our sports editor at **glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk**

Daytona plan to make Lydd Raceway top karting circuit

By **TOM HOWARD**

ASPIRING young racing drivers in the county will soon have a new revamped karting venue to hone their motorsport skills.

Lydd Raceway, near Ashford, is set for an overhaul having been bought by Daytona Motorsport, one of the nation's most famous karting firms.

The company owns circuits in Milton Keynes, Sandown Park, Surrey and Manchester and they intend to invest in the Lydd circuit to establish it as one of the best in the country.

The 1,250-metre circuit is a renowned drivers' track and the new owners intend to keep the layout, but improve the facilities in a bid to attract both racers and amateurs to karting.

They are also planning to add floodlights at the circuit to enable night racing.

The county already boasts a wide range of motorsport facilities, with Buckmore Park leading the line at grassroots level.

A host a famous faces began their careers at the circuit near Chatham, including Formula One champions Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton.

Venture

However, Jim Graham, director of Daytona, believes the county will benefit from having another top-level karting venue and is hoping one day Lydd can produce a household name of the future.

He said: "Obviously we don't want to go directly up against Buckmore Park and offer exactly the same schemes as they do, but we would like to run alongside them.

"We know Bill Sisley well and he has done a great job at Buckmore.

"Drivers don't just want to drive one circuit all the time so we can offer another exciting track for drivers to compete and learn their skills. In the future we hope some people will drive past Buckmore to come to us, but it is early days yet.

"We are hoping to revamp the circuit by investing heavily into the venture. We hope it will not only attract racers, but the general public too.

"One day we would like to help produce a Formula One champion of the future."

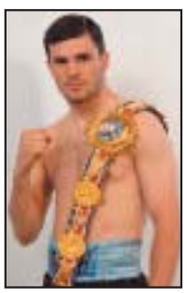
A number of karting championships have already expressed an interest in racing at the venue next year, while Lydd's new owners have also confirmed they will be running the popular Let's Go Karting scheme, aimed at attracting children as young as eight into the sport.

The redevelopment of Lydd Raceway is expected to be completed in time for the circuit's launch in March.



ROUTE ONE: Lydd Raceway is all set for major overhaul by Daytona Motorsport

Old pal stands in way of Matt's title ambition



BIG SHOT: Marsh

BOXER Matt Marsh is confident of victory next week as he continues his preparations for regaining his British title in the spring, ***writes David Pritchard***.

The 28-year-old fights former sparring partner Marc Callaghan in an eagerly anticipated bout at York Hall in Bethnal Green on Friday.

It is the latest step in the Welling boxer's mission to reclaim the national super bantamweight title he was forced to give up earlier this year.

Marsh won the Lonsdale belt 18 months ago by beating former European champion Easham Pickering, but his hopes of retaining it came to an end when he failed to meet the weight requirements for a fight in April.

"I was absolutely gutted. I love the belt and every boxer's dream is to own it outright by retaining it over three fights. I only had one to go, but it was taken from me," he said.

"Of course, I respect Marc, he's a great professional, but he's just a stepping stone for me to get to the British title."

After recovering from the disappointment, Marsh set about getting back to the top. A victory against highly rated youngster Josh Wale opened the way for the Callaghan fight, which should give a good indication of his condition.

A date has already been set to challenge British champion Jason Booth in the New Year for the title Marsh believes is rightly his.

"Of course, the title is mine and I'll take it back in February next year. I'll say thanks to Jason for looking after it for me, then bring it back home to Welling.

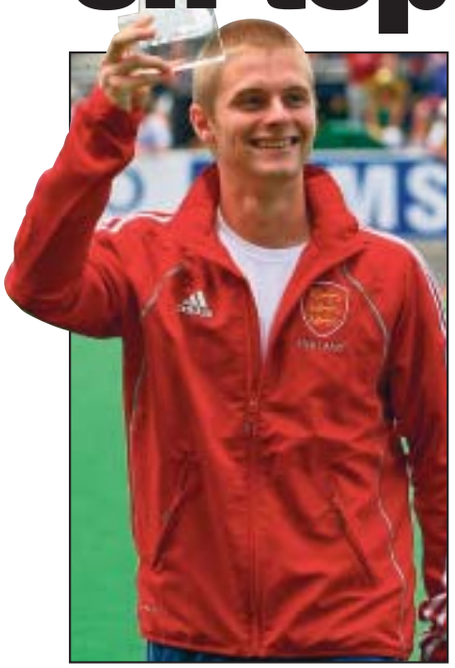
"Hopefully it will be the start of something big for me, by the end of next year I want to have the British, European and Commonwealth titles under my roof."

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Young hockey star on top of the world



ON THE UP: Ashley Jackson with his award

ASHLEY Jackson is hoping to go on and become one of hockey's most feared players after being named the sport's World Young Player of the Year last weekend.

By DAVID PRITCHARD

The 22-year-old saw off competition from five others on the shortlist for the coveted title to become the first English player to win one of the International Hockey Federation's top awards.

Jackson has enjoyed a stellar year, making a name for himself as England won the EuroHockey Nations Championship in August. He was instrumental in the success, scoring eight goals, including two in the final, to be named player of the tournament.

Illustrious

The Chatham-born midfielder was thrilled to collect his latest individual award and is now looking to consistently challenge for top honours.

"It's been a pretty special year," he said. "This award is pretty much as big as you can get, you just have to look at the names who have won it in the past and where they are now. I know hopefully if I can keep going I can be one of the best players in the world.

"It's really kicked on since the Olympics [in 2008]. I've just tried to improve from there, keep working and look to become someone people in the world worry about."

Jackson joins an illustrious list, with previous winners of the award going on to help their teams win a host of world and Olympic titles. Australia's Jamie Dwyer was the second player to win the young prize and has since gone on to scoop the senior gong three times in the last six years.

Jackson began playing hockey with Tunbridge Wells before switching to play senior hockey with East Grinstead.

His form as a teenager in a strong side attracted international recognition, making his full debut in 2006.

His rise to prominence on the international stage has coincided with a move to play club hockey with HGC in the Netherlands, where the sport has a much higher profile than in the UK. Jackson believes the move has done wonders for his game.

He said: "It's hard to say how much of a factor it's been, but it has definitely played a part. You are playing against five or six world-class players every week and training alongside another five or six in between.

"There's no doubt it's been a massive help."

After a superb 2009, Jackson will have little time to dwell on his achievements as England prepare for the World Cup, which begins in India on February 28.

Q-School not the daunting prospect Aitken had feared

KENT golfer Claire Aitken is hoping to finish a hugely disappointing first year on the Ladies European Tour (LET) on a high note as she returns to the notoriously difficult qualifying school this week.



Picture: ADY KERRY

The 23-year-old joined the elite ranks by finishing 26th at Q-School last January, gaining a card for the first time.

But the conversion from talented amateur to successful Tour professional proved difficult and Aitken missed nine cuts of the 12 tournaments she entered, netting just over £4,000.

It was hardly the rookie season the Gravesend golfer was dreaming of a year ago, but her outlook has been changed by her final event of the season in October.

The tied 28th position at the Suzhou Taihu Ladies Open raised her high enough up the rankings to go straight into final qualifying, which begins on Friday.

She said: "My result in China was the best of the season so that's given me a bit of confidence. If I hadn't done well there I would've had to play both weeks of Q-School, which is very tough, so it's taken a load of pressure off.

"Rather than going there thinking it's been a bad year, it has given me a boost."

Maidstone's Dani Masters is also bidding to regain her card at the event to get her career back on track. The 26-year-old's three successive seasons on the LET were ended by injury problems in 2008.

Seymour still has much to prove despite making Great Britain side

NATALIE Seymour will be hoping to make her Great Britain hockey debut this weekend as the national side's tour to Argentina gets underway.

The week-long five Test series in Salta began yesterday, with the second game played this evening.

Seymour, who plays her club hockey for Canterbury, made the 18-strong squad after impressing for England over the last year.

The 23-year-old's form earned her a place in the elite centralised training programme, which began in October.

Seymour travelled to South America in good form and is relishing the opportunity to take on Las Leonas, ranked second in the world.

By DAVID PRITCHARD

She said: "Training's been going well and I'm really enjoying the regime. It's about making the most of the opportunity.

"I've never been to Argentina before and it's a great chance to face one of the best teams in the world."

The defender may not have played for Britain before, but she has accumulated plenty of international experience in a relatively short time.

Despite winning 26 caps for England after featuring in both the Champions Trophy and EuroHockey Nations Championship this year, Seymour insists she still has a lot to prove.

She said: "It's bizarre how many caps I've got, over the summer they did mount up in a way I hadn't experienced before.

"I still wouldn't say I'm anywhere near established or feel like a really experienced player in the squad."

Seymour's club-mate Abi Walker is also in the squad, with the goalkeeper looking to add to her eight Great Britain caps.



Picture: ADY KERRY

MODEL PRO: Natalie Seymour shows off the new Great Britain kit

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Pictures: ADY KERRY

Upgrade tees off

Club hopes to win back major event

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

A TOP Kent golf club is hoping plans to significantly upgrade facilities will see it reclaim the European Open after being left off the 2010 calendar.

The London Club, near Ash, has hosted the high-profile event for the last two years but the tournament was omitted when the European Tour announced its schedule earlier this week. The move is a significant blow for both the club and golf fans in the region, with around 150,000 people watching the world class fields compete across the years.

Accommodation

Heath Harvey, general manager at the club, believes the decision lies in the absence of accommodation on site, which makes it less attractive to sponsors. The lack of a backer to cover the event – which cost £4.5 million this year – meant the Tour – themselves showing the strain of the economic climate by cutting prize money to the end of season Dubai World Championship – had little choice but to omit the competition.

"The players were unanimous in their praise of the course but we have to acknowledge we're not a complete tournament venue," Harvey said. "Our fantastic course combined with a field of great golfers doesn't complete the full package because a sponsor can see it doesn't tick all the boxes. It just gives us more work to do to make this work and win the event back."

The club's response will be swift, with a planning application due to be submitted this month to build a four-star deluxe hotel with about 100 rooms, along with leisure facilities. The additions have long been in the pipeline, but are now needed to compete for events on the Tour.



Harvey believes if the project is approved it would put the London Club alongside some of the biggest venues in the UK.

He said: "If we were to build a hotel here the sort of venues we would be up against would be places like [2010 Ryder Cup hosts] Celtic Manor and the Belfry. What we have here is a facility which cost £40m-plus 15 years ago, and we want to complement that by building a similar scale hotel.

GOOD TIMES: (Above) The European Open at London Golf Club and (left) John Daly

"The last thing we want to see is the end of the European Open. It was an enormous achievement to win it in the first place and we want to fight to bring it back."

The players were unanimous in their praise for the Jack Nicklaus-designed Heritage Course over the two tournaments. Tenterden professional Benn Barham relished playing in front of a home crowd and believes it will be missed next year.

He said: "It's up there with some of the best facilities we play on Tour. The course lends itself perfectly to big events and the condition over the last two years has been in the top band. It was an ideal venue which is such a shame it won't be there next year."

The club hinted last summer in the event of losing the European Open for 2010 they would look into hosting a tournament on the Seniors Tour, but Harvey said it was not an option for the moment.

London Golf Club's European Opens

2008: KENT golf fans embraced the first top-class event in the county for five years, with almost 24,000 taking up the free ticket offer on the first day. On the course, rising star Ross Fisher delighted the massed galleries by chipping in at the final hole to seal a seven-shot victory

2009: ANOTHER star-studded field returned to the London Club, with John Daly's trousers the main talking point early on. A far closer tournament went to the wire in a thrilling final round, with relatively unheralded Frenchman Christian Cevaer winning by one shot.

Barham in good start

A WEEK after failing to win a European Tour card at Qualifying School, Benn Barham is in contention for a strong finish at the Alfred Dunhill Championship.



BACK: Barham

The 33-year-old received a late invite to take part in the first European Tour event of the new season in South Africa and has grabbed the opportunity with both hands. The event is one of 10 European Tour invites Barham is expecting this season.

The Tenterden golfer picked up five birdies on the opening nine holes. Two bogeys and a birdie on the back nine saw him return to the clubhouse with a four-under-par round of 68, which was good enough for tied 14th position.

The second round on Friday saw the Chart Hills golfer briefly challenge for the lead of the tournament after carding three consecutive birdies, which put him within a shot of the lead.

However, his performance dipped on the back nine and he finished the round with a one-over-par 73. The two rounds saw him well clear of the cut and he is well-placed for a top-30 finish when the championship concludes this afternoon.

Shepherd faces Burnett

KIRK Shepherd will start his PDC World Darts Championship campaign against a little-known American in the first round on Saturday.



OPENER: Kirk Shepherd faces Scott Burnett

The 2008 runner-up from Ramsgate will take on Scotty Burnett, ranked 118th in the PDC order of merit, with the American coming into the tournament on the back of a superb year on the oche.

The match will be the fourth of Saturday's afternoon session at the Ally Pally, with the winners likely to play Canadian John Part in the second round. Shepherd lost to Part in the 2008 final.



Picture: NICK DUNGAN



Picture: MARTYN WATSON



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

KICKING OFF: Winning at all costs has become the mantra for most rugby clubs, with more sides relying on kicking for territory

Rugby laws need kicking into touch, say county coaches

KENT rugby coaches have supported the director of elite rugby, Rob Andrew, in his criticism that fans will be driven away by the excess of kicking in the sport, ***writes Steve Tervet***.

The former England fly-half believes the way the laws are being interpreted has prompted a 'must-not-lose' mentality among players and coaches, with success at all costs being put above the need to entertain supporters.

While Kent clubs differ in their opinions on how the game should be played, all accept that the pressures to win are being borne out by a nervousness on the field.

Nick France, 1st XV manager at London 1 South side Aylesford Bulls, said: "There's been a definite increase in kicking and it's come at the same time as this drive for success – winning is now paramount. We always try to put on a good spectacle but if you gave me the option to play dirty and win or play good rugby and lose, I'd play dirty every time."

The Bulls have failed to win a game this season and seem destined for relegation. France admits he would sacrifice style to swap places with any side above them.

Almost certain to gain promotion at the end of the season are Tonbridge Juddians, who have a 100 per cent record at the top of London 2 South East.

Chairman Jon Maidman said: "The creativity has gone from the game and too often teams are waiting for the opposition to make defensive mistakes. It would be lovely to play attractive and winning rugby, but, like all sports, it's a results business.

"At the moment we're having no problems getting results, but if push came to shove, I would take winning over entertaining."

Three steps up the rugby food chain, Canterbury play in National League 2 South and head coach Danny Vaughan believes the responsibility for playing attractive rugby lies with his opposite numbers.

He said: "Coaches need to be more ambitious – too often they'll play safe and it makes for negative rugby. At Canterbury we want to play rugby that people want to watch but most coaches would say winning is the only important thing.

"You could be the most entertaining team all season but if you go down, you're not going to keep your job."

The Nevill set to host Twenty20 Cup games

THE Nevill Ground in Tunbridge Wells is in line to host several of Kent's Twenty20 fixtures next summer.

The club are expected to confirm later this week where they will be playing their Friends Provident Twenty20 Cup games, but we can reveal that the Kent Spitfires' clash with the Sussex Sharks will be played at The Nevill on June 9.

The county are yet to confirm the venue for any of the other seven home fixtures for the crowd-pleasing Twenty20 Cup, but chairman George Kennedy hinted that several more could be staged in Tunbridge Wells.

"We were worried the Twenty20 games may come at a crucial time in the redevelopment of St Lawrence and we don't want any disruption to that," Kennedy explained. "We will be playing the Sussex game at The Nevill, it's always a huge success there, and let's not forget, we are Kent Cricket Club not Canterbury Cricket Club, so we want to take it around the county as much as we can."

Yet this was news to Tunbridge Wells Cricket Club, who have yet to hear which, if any, of Kent's eight Twenty20 games they will be hosting, in addition to the four-day game with Nottinghamshire that starts on June 4.

"We think the confusion is probably down to the departure of Paul Millman as chief executive," Wells secretary Alan Cutts said. "However, we've always had a very good relationship with his replacement Jamie Clifford and we're hoping his appointment will be very good news for Tunbridge Wells. We have a huge amount of confidence in him."



Picture: ADY KERRY

PICTURESQUE: The Nevill could be hosting some of Kent's Twenty20 fixtures next year



Benson pours cold water on speculation

FORMER Kent captain Mark Benson (pictured) has denied he has resigned as an elite umpire.

The 51-year-old withdrew after the first day's play of the second Test between Australia and the West Indies in Adelaide last week. Media stories suggested the umpire, who played for Kent from 1980 until 1997, was poised to retire.

Rumours suggested he had quit the Test in protest at the introduction of the new decision review system which allows an umpire's decision to be challenged. But in a statement released by the International Cricket Council (ICC), Benson rejected the claims, citing poor health.

He said: "I have been in discussions with the ICC since my return from Australia and we have agreed that I will undergo a series of medical assessments. We will then discuss my future and my position as an ICC elite umpire."



STILL GOT IT: Ex-paceman Dean Headley

Headley stars as England win Twenty20 tournament

FORMER Kent paceman Dean Headley helped England to victory in the inaugural Cricket Legends of Barbados International Cup last weekend.

The 39-year-old, who played 15 Test matches for England between 1997 and 1999, was alongside Darren Gough, Mark Ramprakash and Graeme Hick in the 14-man squad which beat South Africa in the final of the over-35 Twenty20 competition. West Indies and Sri Lanka also took part, with Courtney Walsh, Lance Klusener and Arjuna Ranatunga among the stars competing.

Despite some players being long since retired, Headley admitted the competitive instincts soon came flooding back once the competition began.

He said: "We all went down to watch the first game and it was as good as I've seen for a long time. The standard was very high, John Emburey, who's 57, smashed Lance Klusener for six at one point, he couldn't believe it. All the games were close and it was a great experience to be around players I had played with years ago."

Headley found his form early on, dismissing Stuart Williams and former Kent teammate Carl Hooper as England beat the hosts by seven wickets in their opening game. He claimed Indika de Saram and ran out Ruwan Kalpage in the next game, a five-wicket victory against Sri Lanka.

England lost their final group game to South Africa, but made amends when the sides met in last Saturday's final, winning by eight wickets thanks to an unbeaten century partnership between Ramprakash and Hick.

Organisers are hoping to make the tournament an annual event, with plans to increase next year's tournament to eight teams.

Headley said: "From my point of view I think they should set the dates now because I think a lot of people would be interested in going to Barbados to watch. It would be a great event next year with up to eight teams, I think it'll go from strength to strength."

Kent in bid for bowlers

Farbrace close to overseas signing



Picture: ADY KERRY

NOT COMING BACK: Paul Farbrace (below) has said Justin Kemp (main) will not be returning to the club

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT are in "advanced talks" with an overseas fast bowler for the first half of the season and an international spinner for the second, with head coach Paul Farbrace hopeful they may sign before Christmas.

With Ryan McLaren and Martin Saggers departing at the end of last season, Kent have been scouring the market for bowlers to boost their squad for a return to Division One of the County Championship.

Farbrace, who has taken over the reigns from Graham Ford as head coach, told Kent on Sunday neither McLaren or Wayne Parnell, who both played at Canterbury last season, would be returning as overseas players. The former Sri Lanka assistant coach, together with skipper Rob Key and coach Simon Willis, has identified two overseas bowlers he wants for next season, and is hopeful they may sign in the next couple of weeks, and they will share the county season.



"We have talked to about four or five different bowlers about coming to join us next year and we are at a stage where we are in advanced talks with two as overseas players," Farbrace said. "The focus has been 100 per cent on bowlers and that focus is on a seam bowler for the first half of the season and a spinner for the second half."

While Kent look to be nearing their first major signings of the winter, Farbrace also revealed that the club are hoping to attract another two bowlers to the county, to add to their overseas targets.

"I would like to think we are not too far away from the two overseas players, but we have another couple of bowling options that we are exploring," he said. "We have had discussions with two other bowlers who wouldn't be overseas and are not Kolpaks and we'll see where we get with those two.

"With the overseas split into two, we probably need at least another seamer, possibly two and that's what we are working towards."

Farbrace also confirmed that South African Justin Kemp will not be returning to the club next summer, but moved to correct reports that Kent had looked at signing him as an overseas player.

Kemp was hopeful of making a return to St Lawrence, but new regulations in regards to Kolpak players means that Kent have had to pursue other options for 2010.

Farbrace said: "We were talking to [Kemp] about coming back as a Kolpak and I had a discussion with him at the end of the season and then it was clarified that he doesn't qualify as a Kolpak player because he hasn't had a work permit for four consecutive years. As a result, once we realised that, I told him we wouldn't be pursuing him for 2010.

"He isn't an option as an overseas and never has been an option as an overseas player. I've seen his and Ryan McLaren's name linked with us as overseas options but that's not something we have ever talked about."

Send all your sports stories to sports editor Glenn Pearson at **glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk** or call the sportsdesk on **01303 817183**

Kennedy keen to get the right man

AN advert for the vacant role of chief executive at Kent will appear on the England and Wales Cricket Board's website next week, according to club chairman George Kennedy, ***writes Glenn Pearson***.



POST: Kennedy

Paul Millman stepped down from the post two weeks ago with director of business development, Jamie Clifford, taking over as acting chief executive.

While the club have made no secret of the fact 33-year-old Clifford will be given every chance to show he can do the job on a full-time basis, Kennedy said the club would still advertise the role to ensure the county get the best man to take Kent cricket forward.

He said: "We have not put the job advert out to market yet, but it is going to be sent out any day now. We have had several unsolicited applications already which is encouraging and shows it's a job that people want."

Elsewhere, the club have reinstated it's country membership for 2010, after a backlash on it's website forum from angry supporters.

Some members were unhappy the country option – which allows supporters from outside the county to buy Kent membership at a cheaper rate – was not available and would mean a major hike in fees.

However, Clifford sent a letter to all country members this week informing them that the option would be reinstated at 50 per cent of the full membership category as long as members lived in either Essex, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex (East and West) and Greater London.

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EXCLUSIVE

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

Popular Gills coach could leave as club stalls on his new contract

GILLINGHAM first-team coach Mark Robson says he is being forced to pursue options elsewhere as the Kent club continue to stall on offering him a permanent contract.

The 40-year-old was expected to sign a new contract with the Gills in June, but this week Robson told Kent on Sunday it had still not been finalised, much to his acute frustration.

"I'm still not settled as regards to my contract with the club, which is very, very disappointing because I expected it to be sorted out a long time ago," he said.

"It's still not resolved. I've been offered a contract that I've agreed to, but at the moment that contract still hasn't come forward so hopefully it will be sorted out this week, if not next week."

The former West Ham and Tottenham midfielder joined Gillingham on a short-term basis in August 2008, quickly becoming a popular figure with staff and players alike.

In January he signed on until the end of the campaign and following promotion in May, manager Mark Stimson praised the 40-year-old as one of his most important signings.

Robson originally only came to Priestfield as a stop-gap while he looked for the right opening to take on his first managerial post. After nine years on the coaching staff at Charlton, he left the Valley to make the step-up, but after failing to secure a job he joined up with Stimson.

The pair grew up within a couple of miles of each other and have been friends for more than 20 years after serving their apprenticeships at Tottenham Hotspur together.

While the ambition to become a manager in his own right still burns for Robson, he stressed how happy he is working with Stimson and assistant manager Scott Barrett. But the ex-Charlton and Notts County player admitted the ongoing contractual problems mean he is looking for other jobs.

He said: "Until I'm sorted out and have a contract signed, sealed and delivered then I have to. I've got to look after myself and I have a family to think about so yes, I am, but I'd rather just put that to bed and get it done, sorted and out the way.

"I'm still enjoying myself and enjoying working with Mark and Scotty – it's all a very good experience. I've no plans on doing anything or going anywhere, I'm quite happy to be here so hopefully everything will get sorted out and we can focus purely on the job at Gillingham."



WHAT NEXT? Mark Robson hopes his future with Gills will be sorted out soon
Picture: ADY KERRY

Gills chairman Paul Scally declined to comment on the talks, saying "It is not Gillingham Football Club policy to discuss individual contract situations".

Losing Robson would be a significant blow to the Gills, who overall have made a steady return to League One this season.

The first-team coach believes staying up this season would be just as big an achievement as winning promotion last term and hopes the club are able to strengthen the squad when the transfer window opens next month.

He said: "It was obviously going to be a difficult season after stepping up a league and the squad we have is more or less the same as it was last season.

"We've probably done better than expected really if I'm being quite honest.

"It would be good if we could bring some new faces in during January to really freshen things up for the last three or four months.

"Whether that will happen or not I don't know."

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